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# **South Dakota GAME REPORT**

**No. 2021 – 13**

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***2020***

**Annual Report**

## **SMALL GAME, UPLAND BIRD & MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HARVEST PROJECTIONS**

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## PREFACE

Harvest estimates reported herein for the 2020 small game, upland bird, and migratory bird seasons were developed as described in Wildlife Survey Manual, 2009-2015, South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. If species specific methodologies are not reported there, the methodologies are presented within this report.

Corey Huxoll, (Division of Wildlife, Office of Wildlife Administration - Planning - Surveys Section), was responsible for development of these harvest estimates as part of Federal Aid for Wildlife Restoration as Project W-95-R. Electronic harvest survey responses were received through the Internet using Survey123 Software and the GFP Survey Response Website. Paper surveys were processed and encoded by Dana Ertz.

This report was funded in part by Federal Aid Project W-95-R



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# Statewide Combined Harvest

2020 Statewide Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Game Bird Harvest Projection Summary															last revised: 15 June 2021	
Harvest Statistic	Cottontail	Squirrel	Pheasant	Partridge	Prairie Grouse	Tundra Swan	Ducks	Canada Geese (all seasons)	Canada Geese (Sept. season)	Canada Geese (special season)	Light Geese (regular season)	Light Geese (conserv. order)	White-fronted Geese	Mourning Dove	Grand Totals	
<u>Licenses/Tags</u>	Small Game		Upland Birds			Waterfowl									199,370	
Resident																
Licenses Available	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	1,100	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	800	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.		
Proj. Active/Sold/Issued	4,871	3,174	59,042	2,432	10,487	919	12,285	10,356	3,450	754	3,415	2,078	1,256	6,844		
Nonresident																
Licenses Available	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	200	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	N/A	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.		
Proj. Active/Sold/Issued	597	119	62,289	1,806	6,389	247	4,274	2,199	408	N/A	761	2,830	283	416		
Totals																
Licenses Available	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	1,300	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	800	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.	unlim.		
Proj. Active/Sold/Issued	5,468	3,294	121,331	4,238	16,876	1,166	16,559	12,555	3,857	754	4,176	4,908	1,540	7,260		
<u>Hunting Recreation</u>															1,202,787	
Residents																
Average Days Hunted	6.73	5.81	8.09	6.85	5.14	4.56	7.75	6.96	N/A	1.23	5.61	5.39	7.05	4.45		
Total Days Hunted	32,343	18,249	477,603	15,717	53,607	4,378	95,223	72,054	N/A	503	19,157	11,197	8,857	30,430		
Average Season Bag	5.53	3.98	9.28	1.46	4.78	N/A	15.51	9.05	8.49	1.78	12.74	15.00	2.23	17.89		
Mean Satisfaction Score	5.22	5.22	5.06	5.06	5.06	5.17	5.15	5.07	0.00	5.64	5.17	-	-	5.21		
Nonresidents																
Average Days Hunted	4.07	3.89	4.47	4.32	4.33	4.86	4.36	3.96	3.63	-	3.92	4.06	4.26	3.55		
Total Days Hunted	2,427	464	278,624	7,810	27,606	1,177	18,634	8,588	1,479	-	2,984	11,498	1,208	1,475		
Average Season Bag	1.56	2.00	9.00	1.21	2.88	N/A	11.97	3.15	10.98	-	7.20	23.21	1.27	17.23		
Mean Satisfaction Score	5.82	5.82	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.07	5.38	5.38	0.00	-	5.27	-	-	6.06		
Total Days Hunted	34,770	18,713	756,226	23,528	81,213	5,555	113,856	80,642	N/A	503	22,141	22,695	10,065	31,905		
<u>Harvest</u>															1,847,873	
Residents	27,026	12,757	547,802	3,505	48,947	N/A	190,515	93,682	29,291	731	43,499	31,164	2,804	122,464		
Nonresidents	928	239	560,618	2,177	18,314	N/A	51,169	6,924	4,478	-	5,473	65,682	359	7,158		
Total	27,955	12,995	1,108,420	5,683	67,261	189	241,684	100,606	33,769	731	48,972	96,846	3,163	129,622		

## **COTTONTAIL & SQUIRREL**

The 2020 cottontail rabbit and tree squirrel seasons covered 1 September 2020 - 28 February 2021. Harvest surveys were sent to resident and nonresident hunters after the close of the pheasant season on 31 January 2021. It is assumed that this captured the majority of cottontail and squirrel hunting and harvest.

For cottontail, the daily limit was 10, possession 30, and the season was open statewide. For squirrel, the daily limit was 5, possession 15, and the season was open statewide. Residents holding small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses were eligible to participate in the season. Nonresidents were required to obtain either a small game or a youth small game license to hunt upland game.

In 2020, there were 86,796 resident and 66,540 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt small game. Approximately 15,000 residents and 15,000 nonresidents were surveyed for the small game seasons. Survey response rates were 28% for residents and 32% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting cottontails, there were a projected 4,871 resident and 597 nonresident cottontail hunters. Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting squirrels, there were a projected 3,174 resident and 119 nonresident hunters. An estimated 27,955 cottontails and 12,995 squirrels were harvested during the 2020 small game seasons.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), resident hunters reported an average satisfaction level of 5.22, while nonresidents reported a rating of 5.82.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 cottontail and squirrel harvests

Year	Cottontails				Squirrels			
	Hunters		Harvest		Hunters		Harvest	
	Resident	Nonres	Resident	Nonres	Resident	Nonres	Resident	Nonres
2011	3,019	529	19,835	845	1,547	78	6,806	146
2012	3,133	794	18,758	1,763	1,553	166	7,338	400
2013	4,199	516	21,682	846	2,911	116	10,962	61
2014	5,366	754	28,276	1,591	2,552	150	9,587	241
2015	5,779	1,020	37,407	2,397	2,870	171	13,311	180
2016	5,584	754	35,649	2,224	2,786	181	11,614	262
2017	4,628	607	22,711	1,561	2,571	87	9,850	260
2018	4,341	475	19,386	937	2,302	141	8,241	293
2019	3,563	437	19,329	604	2,542	87	12,077	116
2020	4,871	597	27,026	928	3,174	119	12,757	239

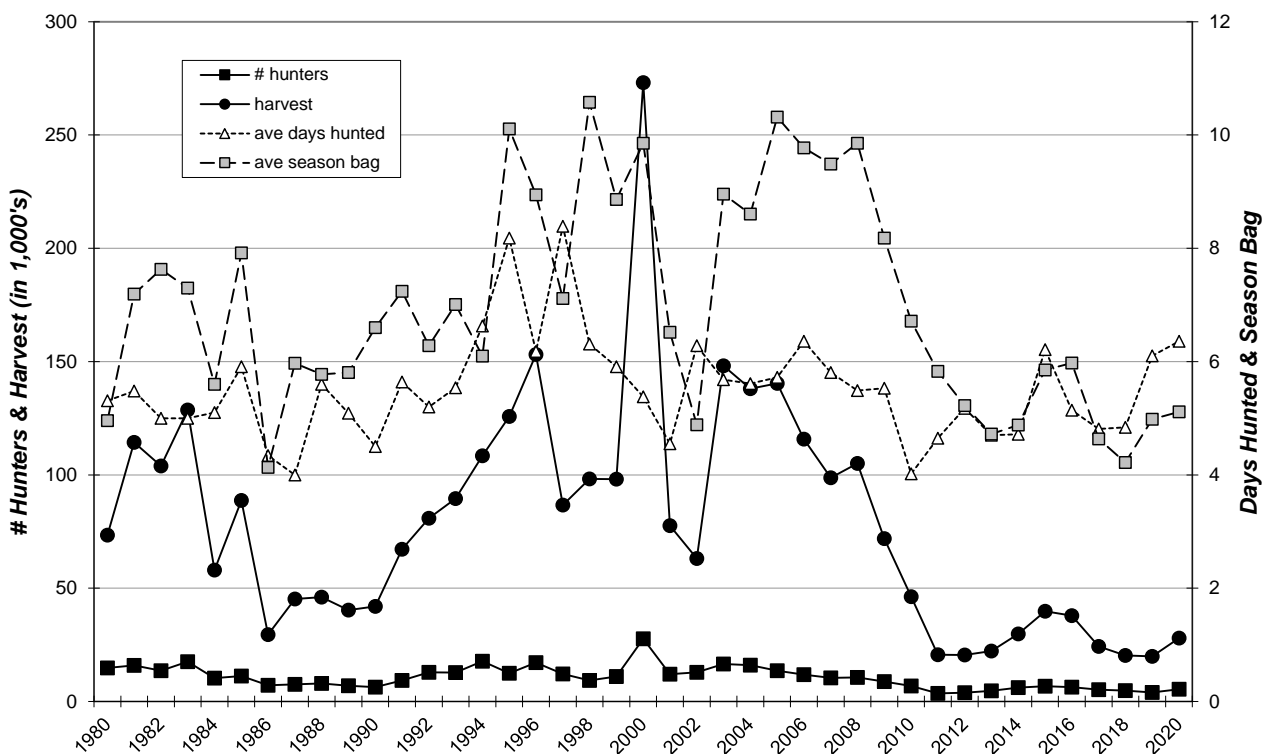
Survey design changed in 2010 and 2014 so results may not be directly comparable to previous years.



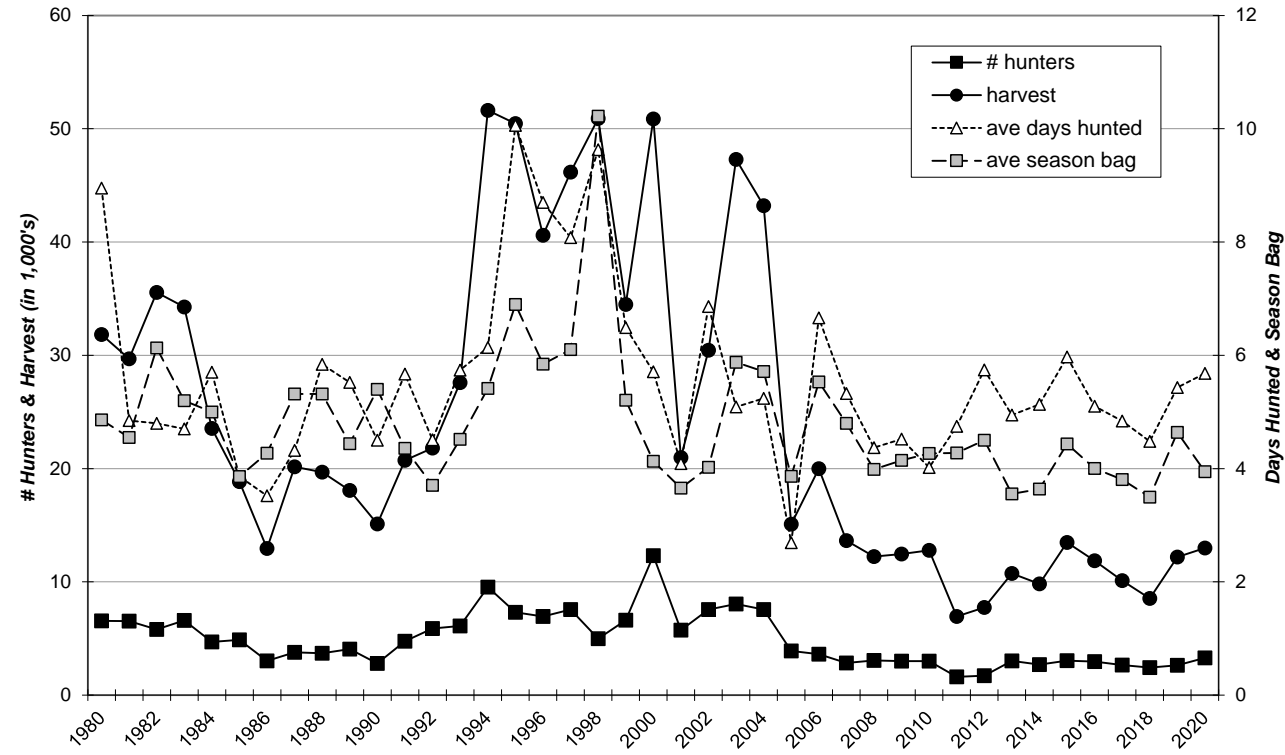
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UPLAND GAME HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020									
Last Revised: 15 June 2021									
	RESIDENT TOTALS BY LICENSE TYPE						NONRESIDENT TOTALS		
	Comb- ination	Junior Combo	Senior Combo	Small Game	Youth SmGm	Sum Estimates	Non Res Sm Game	Youth Sm Gm	Sum Estimates
Licenses Sold	47,644	8,764	10,574	15,887	3,927	86,796	64,631	1,909	66,540
Projected ACTIVE UPLAND GAME HUNTERS	3,280	489	657	678	452	5,556	650	0	650
Number Sampled by Survey	8,183	1,527	1,818	2,782	690	15,000	14,597	403	15,000
Number Responded to Survey	2,455	251	740	562	200	4,208	4,752	88	4,840
% Responded and Participated in Season	7%	6%	6%	4%	12%	7%	1%	0%	1%
Responded and Participated in Season	169	14	46	24	23	276	49	0	49
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	2,286	237	694	538	177	3,932	4,703	88	4,791
Survey Response Rate	30.0%	16.4%	40.7%	20.2%	29.0%	28.1%	32.6%	21.8%	32.3%
No. Hunters Reporting Cottontail Days	145	14	38	21	22	240	45	0	45
Sum Cottontail Hunted Days	895	82	331	159	147	1,614	183		183
Average Days Hunted Cottontails	6.17	5.86	8.71	7.57	6.68	6.73	4.07	0.00	4.07
Sum Cottontails Bagged	723	50	224	184	145	1,326	70		70
Average Cottontail Bag for Season	4.99	3.57	5.89	8.76	6.59	5.53	1.56	0.00	1.56
Projected Days Cottontail Hunting	17,369	2,863	4,730	4,495	2,886	32,343	2,427	0	2,427
Projected No. Cottontail Hunters	2,814	489	543	594	432	4,871	597	0	597
Projected Cottontail Bag	14,031	1,746	3,201	5,201	2,847	27,026	928	0	928
TOTAL COTTONTAIL HARVEST =							27,955		
No. Hunters Reporting Squirrel Days	104	6	26	12	12	160	9	0	9
Sum Squirrel Hunted Days	606	17	144	76	86	929	35		35
Average Days Hunted Squirrels	5.83	2.83	5.54	6.33	7.17	5.81	3.89	0.00	3.89
Sum Squirrels Bagged	382	18	121	82	34	637	18		18
Average Squirrel Bag for Season	3.67	3.00	4.65	6.83	2.83	3.98	2.00	0.00	2.00
Projected Days Squirrel Hunting	11,761	594	2,058	2,148	1,689	18,249	464	0	464
Projected No. Squirrel Hunters	2,018	209	372	339	236	3,174	119	0	119
Projected Squirrel Bag	7,413	628	1,729	2,318	668	12,757	239	0	239
TOTAL SQUIRREL HARVEST =							12,995		
Mean Satisfaction Score *	5.27	6.00	4.62	5.38	5.35	5.22	5.82		5.82
* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1="very dissatisfied" and 7="very satisfied"									

### SOUTH DAKOTA COTTONTAIL HARVEST, 1980-2020



SOUTH DAKOTA SQUIRREL HARVEST, 1980-2020



# **PHEASANT**

The 2020 pheasant season was open from 17 October 2020 – 31 January 2021 statewide. There was also a Youth season open 26 September - 4 October on public and private land and an early resident season open 10-12 October on public lands only. The daily limit was 3 cock pheasants, possession 15. To hunt pheasants, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses; nonresidents were required to obtain adult or youth small game or nonresident shooting preserve licenses. Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. No shooting preserve license holders were surveyed and none of their harvest is included in any of the data in this report.

In 2020, there were 86,796 resident and 66,540 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt pheasants. Approximately 15,000 residents and 15,000 nonresidents were surveyed for the upland bird seasons. Survey response rates were 28% for residents and 32% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting pheasants, there were a projected 59,042 resident and 62,289 nonresident pheasant hunters.

A projected total of 1,108,420 pheasants were harvested (518,288 by residents, 560,618 by nonresidents) during the 2020 seasons. When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), resident upland bird hunters reported an average satisfaction rating of 5.06 while nonresidents reported a higher satisfaction rating of 5.75.

Approximately 12,785 residents participated in the early, resident-only season. The projected harvest for this season was 23,651 birds.

The Youth-only season overall participation rate was approximately 6.5%; nonresidents were not surveyed on their participation in the Youth season.

The five counties with the highest reported harvests from highest to lowest were Brown, Beadle, Brule, Lyman, and Spink.

## Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 Pheasant season statistics

Year	Resident Hunters					Nonresident Hunters				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2011	69,120	644,412	6.83	9.68	4.78	95,077	910,894	4.46	9.63	5.63
2012	69,240	599,675	6.92	9.09	4.65	93,801	829,198	4.35	8.90	5.14
2013	57,647	368,567	6.33	7.15	4.11	74,413	561,445	3.99	7.74	4.95
2014	61,776	504,144	6.31	8.32	4.85	79,195	695,660	4.16	8.79	5.52
2015	65,135	517,942	6.17	8.06	4.98	84,901	737,936	4.15	8.71	5.49
2016	61,746	478,099	6.24	7.86	4.72	81,141	692,497	4.14	8.57	5.43
2017	52,538	326,936	6.08	6.30	4.23	67,232	501,773	3.96	7.47	5.06
2018	53,577	392,020	6.26	7.38	4.64	69,018	558,863	4.06	8.11	5.38
2019	47,403	354,742	6.17	7.48	4.67	63,801	474,754	4.04	7.44	5.28
2020	59,042	518,288	8.09	9.28	5.06	62,289	560,618	4.47	9.00	5.75

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*Corey Huxoll*

<b><u>PHEASANT HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020</u></b>									
<b>Revised:</b>									
<b>4/20/2021</b>									
<b>RESIDENT TOTALS BY LICENSE TYPE</b>							<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>		
	Combo	Junior Combo	Senior Combo	Small Game	Youth SmGm	Sum Estimates	Nonres Sm Game	Youth Sm Game	Sum Estimates
<b>Licenses Sold</b>	47,644	8,764	10,574	15,887	3,927	<b>86,796</b>	64,631	1,909	<b>66,540</b>
<b>Projected ACTIVE UPLAND BIRD HUNTERS</b>	<b>32,332</b>	<b>5,587</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>12,947</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>60,039</b>	<b>61,098</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>62,894</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	8,183	1,527	1,818	2,782	690	<b>15,000</b>	14,597	403	<b>15,000</b>
Number Responded to Survey	2,455	251	740	562	200	<b>4,208</b>	4,752	88	<b>4,840</b>
% Responded and Participated in Season	68%	64%	56%	81%	82%	68%	97%	97%	97%
Responded and Participated in Season	1,666	160	418	458	163	<b>2,865</b>	4,607	85	<b>4,692</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	789	91	322	104	37	<b>1,343</b>	145	3	<b>148</b>
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>30.0%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Pheasant Days	1,627	158	414	454	163	<b>2,816</b>	4,563	84	<b>4,647</b>
Sum Pheasant Hunted Days	13,905	1,215	3,834	3,113	1,148	<b>23,215</b>	20,509	314	<b>20,823</b>
<b>Average Days Hunted Pheasants</b>	<b>8.55</b>	<b>7.69</b>	<b>9.26</b>	<b>6.86</b>	<b>7.04</b>	<b>8.09</b>	<b>4.49</b>	<b>3.74</b>	<b>4.47</b>
Sum Pheasants Bagged	17,334	1,384	3,855	3,159	952	<b>26,684</b>	41,441	522	<b>41,963</b>
<b>Average Pheasant Bag for Season</b>	<b>10.65</b>	<b>8.76</b>	<b>9.31</b>	<b>6.96</b>	<b>5.84</b>	<b>9.28</b>	<b>9.08</b>	<b>6.21</b>	<b>9.00</b>
<b>Projected Days Pheasant Hunting</b>	<b>269,853</b>	<b>42,423</b>	<b>54,785</b>	<b>88,000</b>	<b>22,541</b>	<b>477,603</b>	<b>271,990</b>	<b>6,633</b>	<b>278,624</b>
<b>Projected No. Pheasant Hunters</b>	<b>31,575</b>	<b>5,517</b>	<b>5,916</b>	<b>12,834</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>59,042</b>	<b>60,514</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>62,289</b>
<b>Projected Pheasant Bag</b>	<b>336,400</b>	<b>48,324</b>	<b>55,085</b>	<b>89,301</b>	<b>18,693</b>	<b>547,802</b>	<b>549,590</b>	<b>11,027</b>	<b>560,618</b>
LCI (95%)	313,452	37,545	46,135	78,700	14,992	518,288	537,537	8,815	548,351
UCI (95%)	359,643	59,607	64,302	100,084	22,492	577,321	561,662	13,270	572,891
<b>TOTAL PHEASANT HARVEST =</b>							<b>1,108,420</b>		
<b>LCI (95%) =</b>							<b>1,076,533</b>		
<b>UCI (95%) =</b>							<b>1,140,320</b>		
<b>RESIDENT-ONLY OPENING WEEKEND:</b>									
No. Hunters Reporting Pheasant Days	353	42	88	83	44	<b>610</b>	-	-	-
Sum Pheasant Hunted Days	508	58	159	125	74	<b>924</b>	-	-	-
<b>Average Days Hunted Pheasants</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>1.38</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>1.50</b>	-	-	-
Sum Pheasants Bagged	670	88	166	141	62	<b>1,127</b>	-	-	-
<b>Average Pheasant Bag for Weekend</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>1.85</b>	-	-	-
<b>Projected Days Pheasant Hunting</b>	<b>9,859</b>	<b>2,025</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>3,534</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>19,142</b>	-	-	-
<b>Projected No. Pheasant Hunters</b>	<b>6,851</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>12,785</b>	-	-	-
<b>Projected Pheasant Bag</b>	<b>13,003</b>	<b>3,073</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>3,986</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>23,651</b>	-	-	-
<b>RESIDENT-ONLY WEEKEND PHEASANT HARVEST =</b>							<b>23,651</b>		
<b>Upland Bird Hunters Mean Satisfaction Score *</b>	5.08	5.35	4.68	5.15	5.21	5.06	5.75	5.58	5.75
<i>* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1="very dissatisfied" and 7="very satisfied"</i>									

<b>RESIDENT-ONLY WEEKEND 2020 PHEASANT SEASON PARTICIPATION AND BAG</b>				
<i>Last Revised: 16 April 2021</i>				
	# Days Hunted	# Responded	% of Total	Ave. Bag
<b>Residents</b>	0	3,598	85.5%	
	1	368	8.7%	1.09
	2	170	4.0%	2.58
	3	72	1.7%	4.01

<b>2020 YOUTH-ONLY PHEASANT SEASON PARTICIPATION</b>			
<i>Last Revised: 16 April 2021</i>			
License Type	Number Participated	Did Not Participate	Percent Participated
Small Game	30	532	5.3%
Combination	142	2,313	5.8%
Senior Combination	36	704	4.9%
Youth Small Game	49	151	24.5%
Junior Combination	16	235	6.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>6.5%</b>

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<b>Total Pheasant Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>							
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>			<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>			<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	2,187	1.9	2,294	17,257	1.6	17,956	7.9
Pennington	324	0.3	341	1,898	0.2	1,986	5.8
Brown	6,781	5.9	7,141	62,084	5.9	64,965	9.2
Beadle	4,865	4.2	5,123	50,102	4.7	52,428	10.3
Codington	2,194	1.9	2,304	20,868	2.0	21,738	9.5
Brookings	3,055	2.7	3,209	23,757	2.2	24,777	7.8
Yankton	1,294	1.1	1,361	10,303	1.0	10,748	8.0
Davison	2,705	2.3	2,849	23,757	2.2	24,864	8.8
Lawrence	96	0.1	101	512	0.0	536	5.4
Aurora	3,653	3.2	3,847	36,658	3.5	38,363	10.0
Bennett	1,119	1.0	1,177	8,435	0.8	8,812	7.5
Bon Homme	926	0.8	972	7,465	0.7	7,780	8.1
Brule	5,463	4.7	5,759	48,000	4.5	50,319	8.8
Buffalo	447	0.4	472	3,462	0.3	3,629	7.7
Butte	111	0.1	116	880	0.1	916	7.9
Campbell	1,421	1.2	1,497	17,876	1.7	18,724	12.6
Charles Mix	3,077	2.7	3,240	27,084	2.6	28,339	8.8
Clark	2,739	2.4	2,885	25,688	2.4	26,881	9.4
Clay	632	0.5	665	2,701	0.3	2,826	4.3
Corson	715	0.6	753	7,543	0.7	7,901	10.6
Custer	206	0.2	217	1,773	0.2	1,853	8.6
Day	1,587	1.4	1,671	9,169	0.9	9,590	5.8
Deuel	773	0.7	812	7,480	0.7	7,801	9.7
Dewey	1,126	1.0	1,187	11,500	1.1	12,047	10.2
Douglas	1,196	1.0	1,259	11,075	1.0	11,589	9.3
Edmunds	2,579	2.2	2,714	24,943	2.4	26,071	9.7
Fall River	355	0.3	372	1,796	0.2	1,870	5.1
Faulk	2,657	2.3	2,803	30,159	2.8	31,619	11.4
Grant	658	0.6	691	4,470	0.4	4,667	6.8
Gregory	3,112	2.7	3,281	26,285	2.5	27,559	8.4
Haakon	882	0.8	927	8,064	0.8	8,417	9.1
Hamlin	1,660	1.4	1,743	13,076	1.2	13,631	7.9
Hand	2,467	2.1	2,599	20,998	2.0	21,982	8.5
Hanson	965	0.8	1,015	10,117	1.0	10,558	10.5
Harding	313	0.3	330	2,481	0.2	2,597	7.9
Hughes	3,336	2.9	3,512	33,533	3.2	35,061	10.1
Hutchinson	2,261	2.0	2,377	24,553	2.3	25,652	10.9
Hyde	856	0.7	901	7,278	0.7	7,608	8.5
Jackson	330	0.3	347	3,573	0.3	3,725	10.8
Jerauld	1,212	1.1	1,277	11,406	1.1	11,945	9.4
Jones	1,524	1.3	1,605	12,719	1.2	13,333	8.3
Kingsbury	2,274	2.0	2,390	18,349	1.7	19,154	8.1
Lake	1,839	1.6	1,930	10,617	1.0	11,065	5.8
Lincoln	1,348	1.2	1,415	7,377	0.7	7,685	5.5
Lyman	4,800	4.2	5,061	47,192	4.5	49,418	9.8
McCook	1,997	1.7	2,096	25,449	2.4	26,498	12.7
McPherson	1,784	1.5	1,881	14,704	1.4	15,424	8.2
Marshall	965	0.8	1,017	7,345	0.7	7,692	7.6
Meade	256	0.2	269	1,088	0.1	1,138	4.3
Mellette	270	0.2	285	2,112	0.2	2,217	7.8
Miner	2,409	2.1	2,533	23,546	2.2	24,567	9.8
Moody	675	0.6	708	4,141	0.4	4,309	6.1
Perkins	1,640	1.4	1,723	10,726	1.0	11,204	6.5
Potter	2,151	1.9	2,266	26,309	2.5	27,528	12.2
Roberts	1,017	0.9	1,068	11,457	1.1	11,930	11.3
Sanborn	2,303	2.0	2,421	22,468	2.1	23,467	9.8
Spink	4,242	3.7	4,469	43,262	4.1	45,300	10.2
Stanley	1,247	1.1	1,312	13,544	1.3	14,142	10.9
Sully	1,994	1.7	2,098	23,069	2.2	24,083	11.6
Tripp	4,348	3.8	4,587	41,641	3.9	43,656	9.6
Turner	1,078	0.9	1,130	7,420	0.7	7,728	6.9
Union	669	0.6	702	3,361	0.3	3,498	5.0
Walworth	1,576	1.4	1,661	15,634	1.5	16,372	9.9
Ziebach	256	0.2	269	3,365	0.3	3,507	13.2
Oglala Lakota	109	0.1	115	1,102	0.1	1,156	10.1
Todd	170	0.1	179	1,930	0.2	2,020	11.3
Unk/Unreported	6,056	-	-	48,430	-	-	8.0
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>121,331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>121,331</b>	<b>1,108,420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,108,420</b>	<b>9.14</b>
Last Revised: 15 April 2021							
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.							
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.							

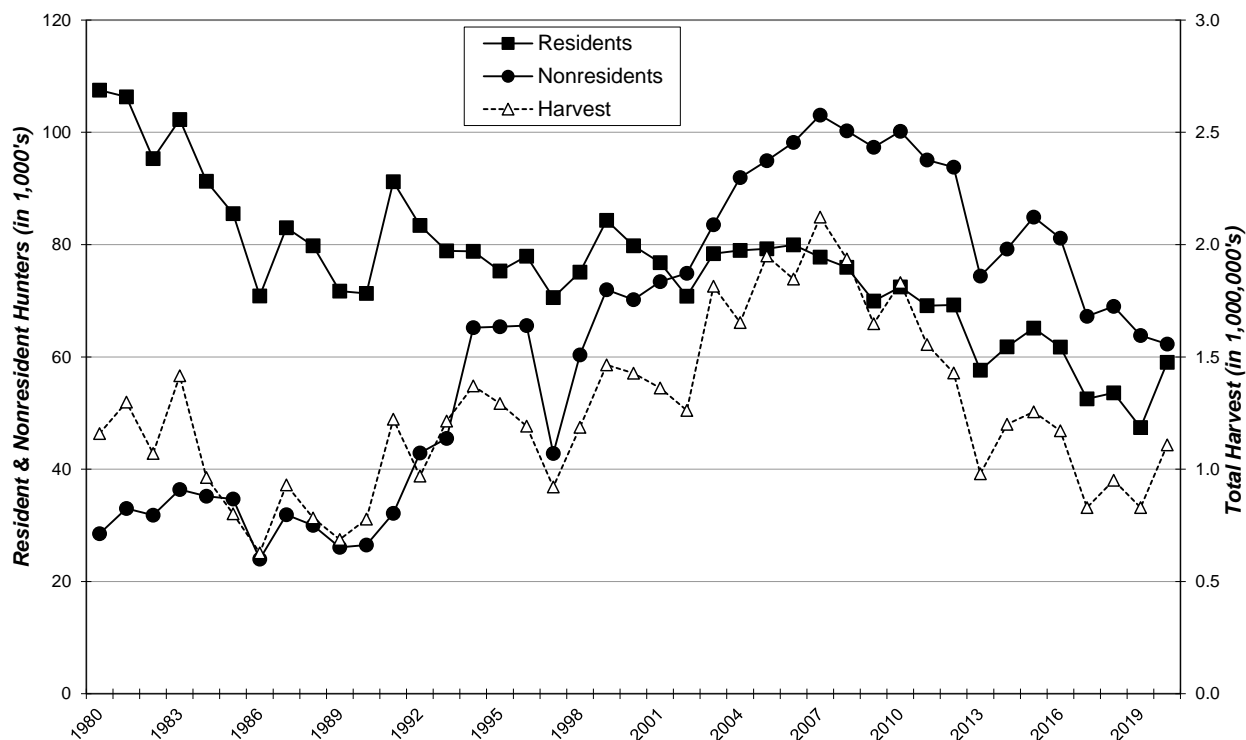
South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Resident Pheasant Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	96	2,013	3.6	2,109	797	16,362	3.1	17,015	8.1
Pennington	11	231	0.4	242	43	883	0.2	918	3.8
Brown	138	2,893	5.1	3,032	1,312	26,934	5.1	28,010	9.3
Beadle	101	2,118	3.8	2,219	1,057	21,699	4.1	22,566	10.2
Codington	81	1,698	3.0	1,780	859	17,635	3.3	18,339	10.4
Brookings	108	2,264	4.0	2,373	852	17,491	3.3	18,190	7.7
Yankton	40	839	1.5	879	360	7,391	1.4	7,686	8.8
Davison	51	1,069	1.9	1,121	485	9,957	1.9	10,354	9.3
Lawrence	2	42	0.1	44	8	164	0.0	171	3.9
Aurora	70	1,468	2.6	1,538	762	15,643	3.0	16,268	10.7
Bennett	31	650	1.2	681	243	4,989	0.9	5,188	7.7
Bon Homme	32	671	1.2	703	294	6,036	1.1	6,277	9.0
Brule	79	1,656	2.9	1,736	624	12,810	2.4	13,322	7.7
Buffalo	6	126	0.2	132	45	924	0.2	961	7.3
Butte	4	84	0.1	88	37	760	0.1	790	9.1
Campbell	23	482	0.9	505	302	6,200	1.2	6,447	12.9
Charles Mix	63	1,321	2.3	1,384	580	11,907	2.3	12,383	9.0
Clark	52	1,090	1.9	1,143	540	11,086	2.1	11,529	10.2
Clay	18	377	0.7	396	60	1,232	0.2	1,281	3.3
Corson	13	273	0.5	286	126	2,587	0.5	2,690	9.5
Custer	6	126	0.2	132	46	944	0.2	982	7.5
Day	29	608	1.1	637	213	4,373	0.8	4,547	7.2
Deuel	26	545	1.0	571	270	5,543	1.1	5,764	10.2
Dewey	16	335	0.6	352	186	3,818	0.7	3,971	11.4
Douglas	27	566	1.0	593	231	4,742	0.9	4,932	8.4
Edmunds	61	1,279	2.3	1,340	656	13,467	2.6	14,005	10.5
Fall River	15	314	0.6	330	81	1,663	0.3	1,729	5.3
Faulk	27	566	1.0	593	381	7,822	1.5	8,134	13.8
Grant	25	524	0.9	549	139	2,854	0.5	2,968	5.4
Gregory	41	860	1.5	901	327	6,713	1.3	6,981	7.8
Haakon	28	587	1.0	615	262	5,379	1.0	5,594	9.2
Hamlin	60	1,258	2.2	1,318	499	10,244	1.9	10,653	8.1
Hand	48	1,006	1.8	1,055	402	8,253	1.6	8,582	8.2
Hanson	23	482	0.9	505	334	6,857	1.3	7,131	14.2
Harding	6	126	0.2	132	46	944	0.2	982	7.5
Hughes	76	1,593	2.8	1,670	833	17,101	3.2	17,784	10.7
Hutchinson	65	1,363	2.4	1,428	691	14,186	2.7	14,752	10.4
Hyde	21	440	0.8	461	184	3,777	0.7	3,928	8.6
Jackson	10	210	0.4	220	135	2,771	0.5	2,882	13.2
Jerauld	22	461	0.8	483	197	4,044	0.8	4,206	8.8
Jones	26	545	1.0	571	164	3,367	0.6	3,501	6.2
Kingsbury	72	1,510	2.7	1,582	586	12,030	2.3	12,511	8.0
Lake	73	1,531	2.7	1,604	415	8,520	1.6	8,860	5.6
Lincoln	56	1,174	2.1	1,231	306	6,282	1.2	6,533	5.4
Lyman	64	1,342	2.4	1,406	843	17,306	3.3	17,997	12.9
McCook	78	1,635	2.9	1,714	1,103	22,644	4.3	23,548	13.8
McPherson	25	524	0.9	549	154	3,162	0.6	3,288	6.0
Marshall	16	335	0.6	352	130	2,669	0.5	2,775	8.0
Meade	9	189	0.3	198	25	513	0.1	534	2.7
Mellette	2	42	0.1	44	17	349	0.1	363	8.3
Miner	74	1,552	2.8	1,626	804	16,506	3.1	17,165	10.6
Moody	29	608	1.1	637	190	3,901	0.7	4,056	6.4
Perkins	52	1,090	1.9	1,143	309	6,344	1.2	6,597	5.8
Potter	38	797	1.4	835	567	11,640	2.2	12,105	14.6
Roberts	37	776	1.4	813	493	10,121	1.9	10,525	13.0
Sanborn	67	1,405	2.5	1,472	663	13,611	2.6	14,155	9.7
Spink	77	1,614	2.9	1,692	783	16,074	3.1	16,717	10.0
Stanley	32	671	1.2	703	417	8,561	1.6	8,903	12.8
Sully	51	1,069	1.9	1,121	730	14,986	2.8	15,585	14.0
Tripp	45	943	1.7	989	529	10,860	2.1	11,294	11.5
Turner	45	943	1.7	989	312	6,405	1.2	6,661	6.8
Union	30	629	1.1	659	152	3,120	0.6	3,245	5.0
Walworth	24	503	0.9	527	280	5,748	1.1	5,978	11.4
Ziebach	9	189	0.3	198	134	2,751	0.5	2,861	14.6
Oglala Lakota	2	42	0.1	44	14	287	0.1	299	6.9
Todd	3	63	0.1	66	40	821	0.2	854	13.1
Unk/Unreported	129	2,705	-	-	1,025	21,042	-	-	7.8
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>59,042</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>59,042</b>	<b>26,684</b>	<b>547,802</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>547,802</b>	<b>9.28</b>
Last Revised: 15 April 2021									
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.									
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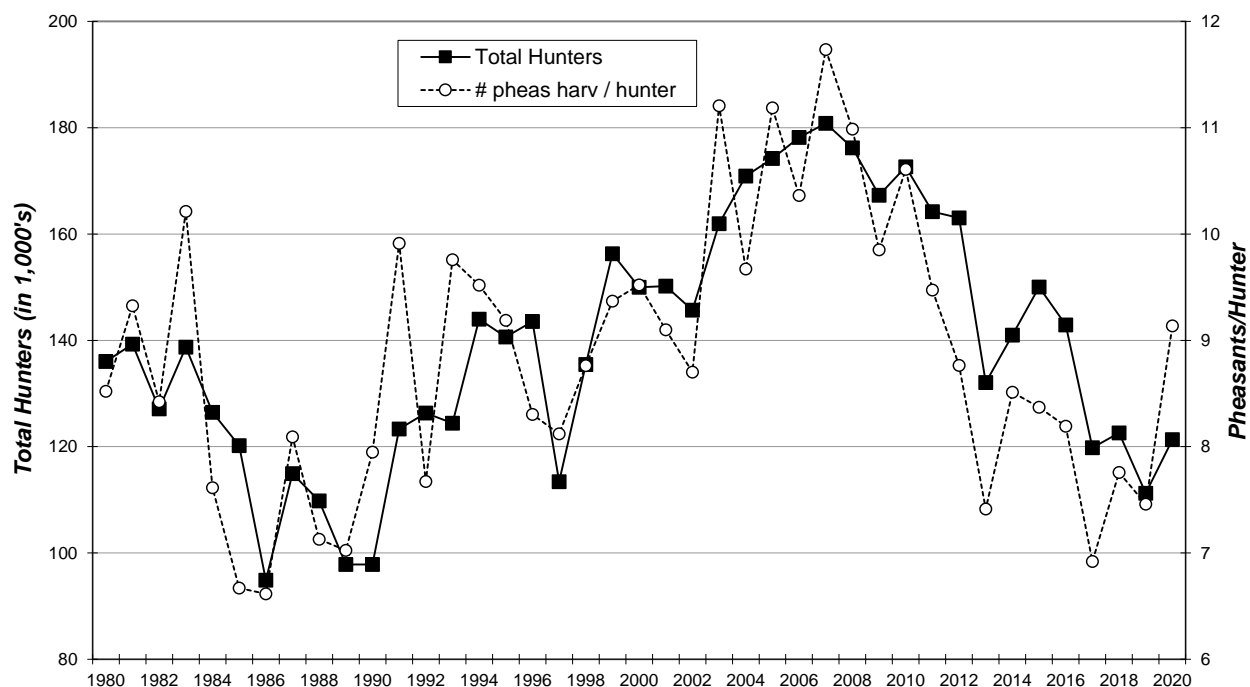
**South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections**  
*Corey Huxoll*

<b>Nonresident Pheasant Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	13	174	0.3	184	67	895	0.2	941	5.1
Pennington	7	94	0.2	99	76	1,015	0.2	1,067	10.8
Brown	290	3,887	6.6	4,108	2,631	35,150	6.6	36,955	9.0
Beadle	205	2,748	4.7	2,904	2,126	28,403	5.3	29,862	10.3
Codington	37	496	0.8	524	242	3,233	0.6	3,399	6.5
Brookings	59	791	1.3	836	469	6,266	1.2	6,588	7.9
Yankton	34	456	0.8	482	218	2,912	0.5	3,062	6.4
Davison	122	1,635	2.8	1,728	1,033	13,801	2.6	14,510	8.4
Lawrence	4	54	0.1	57	26	347	0.1	365	6.5
Aurora	163	2,185	3.7	2,309	1,573	21,015	3.9	22,094	9.6
Bennett	35	469	0.8	496	258	3,447	0.6	3,624	7.3
Bon Homme	19	255	0.4	269	107	1,429	0.3	1,503	5.6
Brule	284	3,807	6.5	4,023	2,634	35,190	6.6	36,997	9.2
Buffalo	24	322	0.5	340	190	2,538	0.5	2,669	7.9
Butte	2	27	0.0	28	9	120	0.0	126	4.5
Campbell	70	938	1.6	992	874	11,676	2.2	12,276	12.4
Charles Mix	131	1,756	3.0	1,856	1,136	15,177	2.8	15,956	8.6
Clark	123	1,649	2.8	1,742	1,093	14,602	2.7	15,352	8.9
Clay	19	255	0.4	269	110	1,470	0.3	1,545	5.8
Corson	33	442	0.8	467	371	4,956	0.9	5,211	11.2
Custer	6	80	0.1	85	62	828	0.2	871	10.3
Day	73	979	1.7	1,034	359	4,796	0.9	5,043	4.9
Deuel	17	228	0.4	241	145	1,937	0.4	2,037	8.5
Dewey	59	791	1.3	836	575	7,682	1.4	8,076	9.7
Douglas	47	630	1.1	666	474	6,333	1.2	6,658	10.1
Edmunds	97	1,300	2.2	1,374	859	11,476	2.2	12,066	8.8
Fall River	3	40	0.1	42	10	134	0.0	140	3.3
Faulk	156	2,091	3.5	2,210	1,672	22,338	4.2	23,485	10.7
Grant	10	134	0.2	142	121	1,617	0.3	1,700	12.1
Gregory	168	2,252	3.8	2,380	1,465	19,572	3.7	20,577	8.7
Haakon	22	295	0.5	312	201	2,685	0.5	2,823	9.1
Hamlin	30	402	0.7	425	212	2,832	0.5	2,978	7.0
Hand	109	1,461	2.5	1,544	954	12,745	2.4	13,400	8.7
Hanson	36	483	0.8	510	244	3,260	0.6	3,427	6.8
Harding	14	188	0.3	198	115	1,536	0.3	1,615	8.2
Hughes	130	1,743	3.0	1,842	1,230	16,433	3.1	17,277	9.4
Hutchinson	67	898	1.5	949	776	10,367	1.9	10,900	11.5
Hyde	31	416	0.7	439	262	3,500	0.7	3,680	8.4
Jackson	9	121	0.2	127	60	802	0.2	843	6.6
Jerauld	56	751	1.3	793	551	7,361	1.4	7,739	9.8
Jones	73	979	1.7	1,034	700	9,352	1.8	9,832	9.6
Kingsbury	57	764	1.3	807	473	6,319	1.2	6,644	8.3
Lake	23	308	0.5	326	157	2,097	0.4	2,205	6.8
Lincoln	13	174	0.3	184	82	1,096	0.2	1,152	6.3
Lyman	258	3,458	5.9	3,655	2,237	29,886	5.6	31,421	8.6
McCook	27	362	0.6	382	210	2,806	0.5	2,950	7.8
McPherson	94	1,260	2.1	1,332	864	11,543	2.2	12,136	9.2
Marshall	47	630	1.1	666	350	4,676	0.9	4,916	7.4
Meade	5	67	0.1	71	43	574	0.1	604	8.6
Mellette	17	228	0.4	241	132	1,763	0.3	1,854	7.7
Miner	64	858	1.5	907	527	7,041	1.3	7,402	8.2
Moody	5	67	0.1	71	18	240	0.0	253	3.6
Perkins	41	550	0.9	581	328	4,382	0.8	4,607	8.0
Potter	101	1,354	2.3	1,431	1,098	14,669	2.8	15,422	10.8
Roberts	18	241	0.4	255	100	1,336	0.3	1,405	5.5
Sanborn	67	898	1.5	949	663	8,858	1.7	9,312	9.9
Spink	196	2,627	4.5	2,777	2,035	27,187	5.1	28,584	10.3
Stanley	43	576	1.0	609	373	4,983	0.9	5,239	8.6
Sully	69	925	1.6	977	605	8,083	1.5	8,498	8.7
Tripp	254	3,405	5.8	3,598	2,304	30,781	5.8	32,362	9.0
Turner	10	134	0.2	142	76	1,015	0.2	1,067	7.6
Union	3	40	0.1	42	18	240	0.0	253	6.0
Walworth	80	1,072	1.8	1,133	740	9,886	1.9	10,394	9.2
Ziebach	5	67	0.1	71	46	615	0.1	646	9.2
Oglala Lakota	5	67	0.1	71	61	815	0.2	857	12.2
Todd	8	107	0.2	113	83	1,109	0.2	1,166	10.3
Unk/Unreported	250	3,351	-	-	2,050	27,388	-	-	8.2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,647</b>	<b>62,289</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62,289</b>	<b>41,963</b>	<b>560,618</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>560,618</b>	<b>9.00</b>
<i>Last Revised: 15 April 2021</i>									
<i>* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.</i>									
<i>** Calculation uses "Projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.</i>									

## SOUTH DAKOTA PHEASANT HARVEST 1980-2020



## SOUTH DAKOTA PHEASANT HUNTERS AND AVERAGE SEASON HARVEST 1980-2020





## **PARTRIDGE**

The 2020 partridge season was open 19 September 2020 - 3 January 2021 statewide. Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. The daily limit was 5 birds, possession 15. To hunt partridge residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses; nonresidents were required to obtain adult or youth small game or nonresident shooting preserve licenses. Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. No shooting preserve license holders were surveyed and none of their harvest is included in any of the data in this report.

In 2020, there were 86,796 resident and 66,540 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt partridge. Approximately 15,000 residents and 15,000 nonresidents were surveyed for the upland bird seasons. Survey response rates were 28% for residents and 32% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting partridge, there were a projected 2,432 resident and 1,806 nonresident partridge hunters.

An estimated 4,181 partridge were harvested (3,505 by residents, 2,177 by nonresidents) during the 2020 season. When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), resident upland bird hunters reported an average satisfaction rating of 5.06 while nonresidents reported a higher satisfaction rating of 5.75.

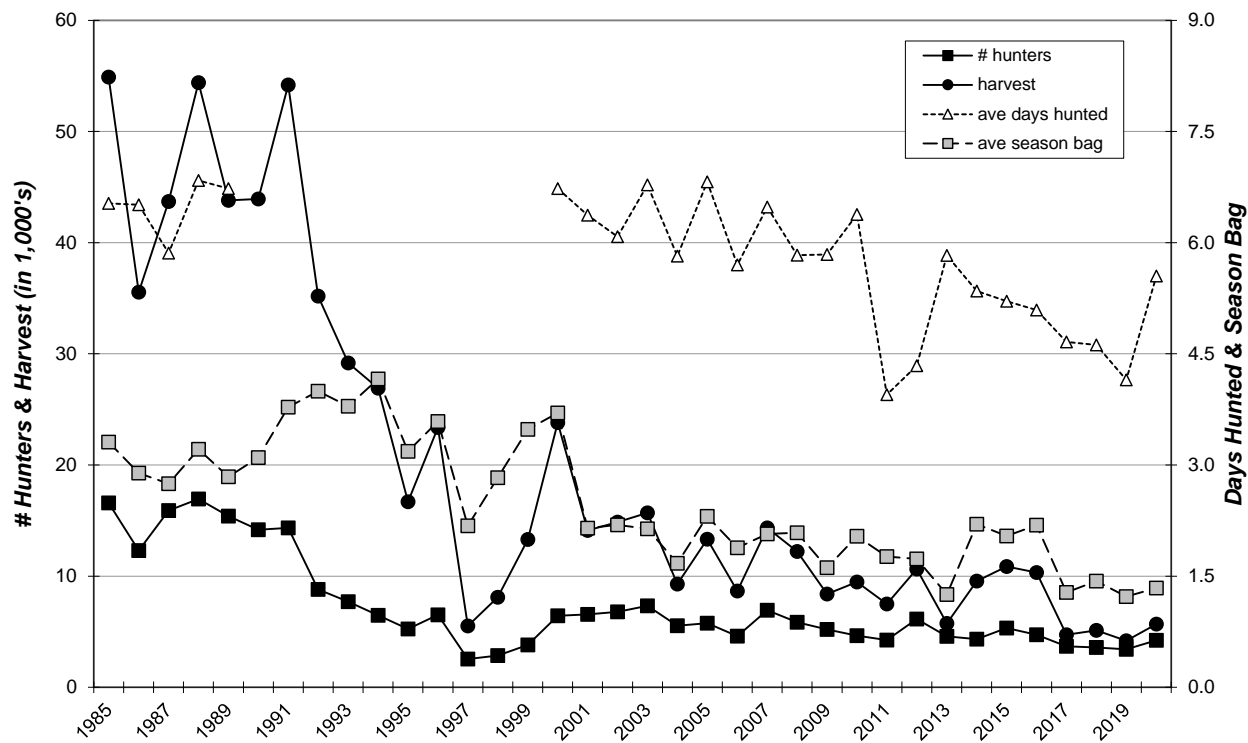
### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 partridge harvests

Year	<b>Residents</b>				<b>Nonresidents</b>			
	Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag	Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag
2011	2,335	3,719	3.77	1.57	1,889	3,771	4.09	2.01
2012	2,903	4,338	4.75	1.51	3,231	6,295	3.97	1.95
2013	2,666	2,990	7.09	1.13	1,926	2,761	4.23	1.43
2014	2,355	5,942	6.27	2.43	1,985	3,609	4.13	1.82
2015	3,189	5,840	5.63	1.85	2,133	5,019	4.05	3.08
2016	2,516	7,053	5.87	2.73	2,204	3,272	4.21	1.48
2017	2,005	2,496	5.44	1.24	1,682	2,224	3.93	1.32
2018	1,672	1,223	4.82	0.75	1,904	3,900	4.38	2.05
2019	1,850	1,703	5.48	1.04	1,565	2,478	4.34	1.58
2020	2,432	3,505	6.85	1.46	1,806	2,177	4.32	1.21

South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>PARTRIDGE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020</b>							<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>		
Revised: 4/20/2021	<b>RESIDENT TOTALS BY LICENSE TYPE</b>								
	Combo	Junior Combo	Senior Combo	Small Game	Youth SmGm	Sum Estimates	Nonres Sm Game	Youth Sm Game	Sum Estimates
<b>Licenses Sold</b>	47,644	8,764	10,574	15,887	3,927	<b>86,796</b>	64,631	1,909	<b>66,540</b>
<b>Projected ACTIVE UPLAND BIRD HUNTERS</b>	<b>32,332</b>	<b>5,587</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>12,947</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>60,039</b>	<b>61,098</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>62,894</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	8,183	1,527	1,818	2,782	690	<b>15,000</b>	14,597	403	<b>15,000</b>
Number Responded to Survey	2,455	251	740	562	200	<b>4,208</b>	4,752	88	<b>4,840</b>
% Responded and Participated in Season	68%	64%	56%	81%	82%	68%	97%	97%	97%
Responded and Participated in Season	1,666	160	418	458	163	<b>2,865</b>	4,607	85	<b>4,692</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	789	91	322	104	37	<b>1,343</b>	145	3	<b>148</b>
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>30.0%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Partridge Days	80	4	23	9	8	<b>124</b>	133	2	<b>135</b>
Sum Partridge Hunted Days	563	9	224	25	29	<b>850</b>	573	10	<b>583</b>
Average Days Hunted Partridge	<b>7.04</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>9.74</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>6.85</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>4.32</b>
Sum Partridge Bagged	146	4	24	6	1	<b>181</b>	161	2	<b>163</b>
Average Season Partridge Bag	<b>1.83</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>1.46</b>	<b>1.21</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.21</b>
<b>Projected Days Partridge Hunting</b>	<b>10,926</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>15,717</b>	<b>7,599</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>7,810</b>
<b>Projected No. Partridge Hunters</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>2,432</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1,806</b>
<b>Projected Partridge Bag</b>	<b>2,833</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3,505</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2,177</b>
<b>TOTAL PARTRIDGE HARVEST =</b>							<b>5,683</b>		

### STATEWIDE PARTRIDGE HARVEST, 1985-2020



## **PRAIRIE CHICKEN & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE**

Historically, these two species, plus ruffed grouse, have been combined under the name "Prairie Grouse." In these reports, harvest estimates for these species were combined. In 2006, hunters were asked specifically how many of each species were harvested of the total harvest and 76% were identified as sharp-tailed grouse, 20% as prairie chickens, and 4% were unknown. They continue to be combined for the overall harvest estimates in this report.

The 2020 grouse season covered 19 September 2020 – 3 January 2021 statewide. Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. The daily limit was 3 birds, possession 15. To hunt grouse residents required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses; nonresidents were required to obtain adult or youth small game or nonresident shooting preserve licenses. Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. No shooting preserve license holders were surveyed and none of their harvest is included in any of the data in this report.

In 2020, there were 86,796 resident and 66,540 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt prairie grouse. Approximately 15,000 residents and 15,000 nonresidents were surveyed for the upland bird seasons. Survey response rates were 28% for residents and 32% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting grouse, there were a projected 10,487 resident and 6,389 nonresident grouse hunters. A projected total of 67,261 grouse were harvested (48,947 by residents, 18,314 by nonresidents) during the 2020 season.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being very dissatisfied, and 7 being very satisfied), resident upland bird hunters reported an average rating of 5.06 while nonresidents reported a rating of 5.75.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 prairie grouse season statistics

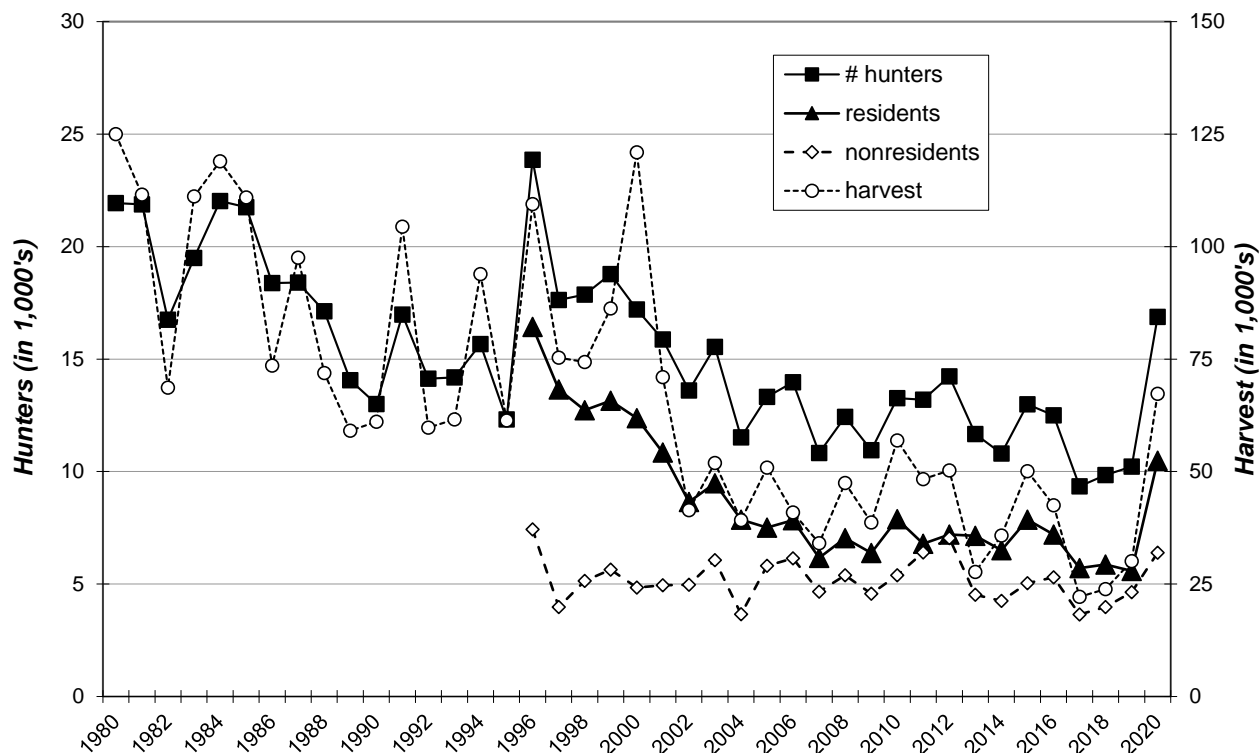
Year	Residents					Nonresidents				
	Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2011	6,789	27,581	4.19	4.09	4.78	6,407	20,718	4.01	3.26	5.63
2012	7,197	31,223	4.68	4.38	4.65	7,037	19,005	3.83	2.70	5.14
2013	7,149	19,858	4.28	2.76	4.11	4,523	7,840	3.87	1.73	4.95
2014	6,503	25,847	4.55	4.01	4.85	4,254	9,943	3.99	2.31	5.52
2015	7,866	34,506	4.72	4.40	4.98	5,032	15,388	4.05	3.08	5.49
2016	7,199	31,611	4.88	4.40	4.72	5,203	11,294	4.04	2.18	5.43
2017	5,703	15,863	4.57	2.80	4.23	3,645	6,290	3.81	1.73	5.06
2018	5,868	16,431	4.36	2.83	4.64	3,979	7,429	4.08	1.87	5.38
2019	5,583	18,601	4.45	3.33	4.67	4,637	11,452	3.74	2.47	5.28
2020	10,487	48,947	5.14	4.78	5.06	6,389	18,314	4.33	2.88	5.75

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Corey Huxoll

<b>PRAIRIE GROUSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020</b>							<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>		
Revised: 4/20/2021	<b>RESIDENT TOTALS BY LICENSE TYPE</b>						<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>		
	Combo	Junior Combo	Senior Combo	Small Game	Youth SmGm	Sum Estimates	Nonres Sm Game	Youth Sm Game	Sum Estimates
<b>Licenses Sold</b>	47,644	8,764	10,574	15,887	3,927	<b>86,796</b>	64,631	1,909	<b>66,540</b>
<b>Projected ACTIVE UPLAND BIRD HUNTERS</b>	<b>32,332</b>	<b>5,587</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>12,947</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>60,039</b>	<b>61,098</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>62,894</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	8,183	1,527	1,818	2,782	690	<b>15,000</b>	14,597	403	<b>15,000</b>
Number Responded to Survey	2,455	251	740	562	200	<b>4,208</b>	4,752	88	<b>4,840</b>
% Responded and Participated in Season	68%	64%	56%	81%	82%	68%	97%	97%	97%
Responded and Participated in Season	1,666	160	418	458	163	<b>2,865</b>	4,607	85	<b>4,692</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	789	91	322	104	37	<b>1,343</b>	145	3	<b>148</b>
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>30.0%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Prairie Grouse Days	347	21	68	53	28	<b>517</b>	469	8	<b>477</b>
Sum Prairie Grouse Hunted Days	1,733	111	394	262	156	<b>2,656</b>	2,037	28	<b>2,065</b>
Average Days Hunted Prairie Grouse	<b>4.99</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>5.79</b>	<b>4.94</b>	<b>5.57</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>4.34</b>	<b>3.50</b>	<b>4.33</b>
Sum Prairie Grouse Bagged	1,831	80	298	141	121	<b>2,471</b>	1,365	10	<b>1,375</b>
Average Season Prairie Grouse Bag	<b>5.28</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>4.38</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>4.78</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>2.88</b>
<b>Projected Days Prairie Grouse Hunting</b>	<b>33,632</b>	<b>3,876</b>	<b>5,630</b>	<b>7,406</b>	<b>3,063</b>	<b>53,607</b>	<b>27,015</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>27,606</b>
<b>Projected No. Prairie Grouse Hunters</b>	<b>6,734</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>1,498</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>10,487</b>	<b>6,220</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>6,389</b>
<b>Projected Prairie Grouse Bag</b>	<b>35,534</b>	<b>2,793</b>	<b>4,258</b>	<b>3,986</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>48,947</b>	<b>18,103</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>18,314</b>
<b>TOTAL PRAIRIE GROUSE HARVEST =</b>							<b>67,261</b>		
<b>Upland Bird Hunters Mean Satisfaction Score *</b>	5.08	5.35	4.68	5.15	5.21	5.06	5.75	5.58	5.75

\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1="very dissatisfied" and 7="very satisfied"

## PRAIRIE GROUSE HUNTERS & HARVEST 1980-2020



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Resident Grouse Harvest Distribution by County 2020										
COUNTY	HUNTER DISTRIBUTION				HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Birds/Hunter	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *		
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Pennington	28	568	5.8	609	130	2,575	5.6	2,722	4.5	
Brown	1	20	0.2	22	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Beadle	2	41	0.4	44	4	79	0.2	84	2.0	
Codington	1	20	0.2	22	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Yankton	1	20	0.2	22	2	40	0.1	42	2.0	
Davison	2	41	0.4	44	2	40	0.1	42	1.0	
Lawrence	5	101	1.0	109	7	139	0.3	147	1.4	
Aurora	3	61	0.6	65	6	119	0.3	126	2.0	
Bennett	14	284	2.9	305	51	1,010	2.2	1,068	3.6	
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Brule	7	142	1.5	152	18	357	0.8	377	2.5	
Buffalo	2	41	0.4	44	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Butte	8	162	1.7	174	32	634	1.4	670	3.9	
Campbell	4	81	0.8	87	4	79	0.2	84	1.0	
Charles Mix	8	162	1.7	174	7	139	0.3	147	0.9	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Corson	12	243	2.5	261	46	911	2.0	963	3.7	
Custer	5	101	1.0	109	24	475	1.0	502	4.7	
Day	3	61	0.6	65	18	357	0.8	377	5.9	
Deuel	1	20	0.2	22	2	40	0.1	42	2.0	
Dewey	20	406	4.1	435	153	3,031	6.5	3,203	7.5	
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Edmunds	1	20	0.2	22	1	20	0.0	21	1.0	
Fall River	9	183	1.9	196	72	1,426	3.1	1,507	7.8	
Faulk	1	20	0.2	22	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Grant	7	142	1.5	152	7	139	0.3	147	1.0	
Gregory	5	101	1.0	109	8	158	0.3	167	1.6	
Haakon	26	527	5.4	566	120	2,377	5.1	2,512	4.5	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Hand	5	101	1.0	109	9	178	0.4	188	1.8	
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Harding	15	304	3.1	326	72	1,426	3.1	1,507	4.7	
Hughes	11	223	2.3	239	20	396	0.9	419	1.8	
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Hyde	6	122	1.2	131	12	238	0.5	251	2.0	
Jackson	13	264	2.7	283	107	2,120	4.6	2,240	8.0	
Jerauld	2	41	0.4	44	1	20	0.0	21	0.5	
Jones	19	385	3.9	413	141	2,793	6.0	2,952	7.2	
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Lyman	38	771	7.9	827	94	1,862	4.0	1,968	2.4	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
McPherson	7	142	1.5	152	5	99	0.2	105	0.7	
Marshall	2	41	0.4	44	3	59	0.1	63	1.5	
Meade	36	730	7.5	783	229	4,536	9.8	4,794	6.2	
Mellette	11	223	2.3	239	57	1,129	2.4	1,193	5.1	
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Perkins	45	913	9.3	979	167	3,308	7.1	3,496	3.6	
Potter	8	162	1.7	174	39	773	1.7	816	4.8	
Roberts	2	41	0.4	44	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Stanley	50	1,014	10.4	1,088	457	9,053	19.5	9,568	8.9	
Sully	6	122	1.2	131	7	139	0.3	147	1.1	
Tripp	8	162	1.7	174	58	1,149	2.5	1,214	7.1	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Union	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	
Walworth	5	101	1.0	109	11	218	0.5	230	2.1	
Ziebach	11	223	2.3	239	95	1,882	4.1	1,989	8.4	
Oglala Lakota	1	20	0.2	22	4	79	0.2	84	3.9	
Todd	5	101	1.0	109	36	713	1.5	754	7.0	
Unknown	35	710	-	-	133	2,635	-	-	3.7	
TOTALS:	517	10,487	100.0%	10,487	2,471	48,947	100%	48,947	4.67	
Last Revised: 14 April 2021										
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.										
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.										

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<b>Nonresident Grouse Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>										
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>					<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>		<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Pennington	1	13	0.2	14		7	93	0.5	96	7.0
Brown	7	94	1.5	97		4	53	0.3	55	0.6
Beadle	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Codington	2	27	0.4	28		0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brookings	1	13	0.2	14		4	53	0.3	55	4.0
Yankton	3	40	0.6	41		8	107	0.6	110	2.7
Davison	2	27	0.4	28		0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Aurora	2	27	0.4	28		1	13	0.1	14	0.5
Bennett	11	147	2.4	152		37	493	2.8	509	3.3
Bon Homme	1	13	0.2	14		3	40	0.2	41	3.0
Brule	10	134	2.2	138		20	266	1.5	275	2.0
Buffalo	4	54	0.9	55		9	120	0.7	124	2.2
Butte	1	13	0.2	14		1	13	0.1	14	1.0
Campbell	5	67	1.1	69		11	147	0.8	151	2.2
Chas Mix	4	54	0.9	55		3	40	0.2	41	0.7
Clark	1	13	0.2	14		0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Clay	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Corson	24	321	5.2	332		94	1,252	7.1	1,294	3.9
Custer	1	13	0.2	14		5	67	0.4	69	5.0
Day	9	121	1.9	124		21	280	1.6	289	2.3
Deuel	1	13	0.2	14		1	13	0.1	14	1.0
Dewey	29	388	6.3	401		128	1,705	9.6	1,763	4.4
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Edmunds	3	40	0.6	41		2	27	0.2	28	0.7
Fall River	1	13	0.2	14		14	186	1.1	193	13.9
Faulk	2	27	0.4	28		5	67	0.4	69	2.5
Grant	1	13	0.2	14		0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Gregory	6	80	1.3	83		3	40	0.2	41	0.5
Haakon	10	134	2.2	138		67	892	5.0	923	6.7
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Hand	10	134	2.2	138		5	67	0.4	69	0.5
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Harding	8	107	1.7	111		35	466	2.6	482	4.4
Hughes	31	415	6.7	429		75	999	5.6	1,033	2.4
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Hyde	5	67	1.1	69		3	40	0.2	41	0.6
Jackson	5	67	1.1	69		27	360	2.0	372	5.4
Jerauld	6	80	1.3	83		13	173	1.0	179	2.2
Jones	27	362	5.8	373		97	1,292	7.3	1,336	3.6
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Lake	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Lincoln	1	13	0.2	14		2	27	0.2	28	2.0
Lyman	66	884	14.3	913		163	2,171	12.3	2,244	2.5
McCook	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
McPherson	13	174	2.8	180		12	160	0.9	165	0.9
Marshall	2	27	0.4	28		2	27	0.2	28	1.0
Meade	4	54	0.9	55		11	147	0.8	151	2.7
Mellette	9	121	1.9	124		36	479	2.7	496	4.0
Miner	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Moody	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Perkins	28	375	6.1	387		132	1,758	9.9	1,818	4.7
Potter	12	161	2.6	166		28	373	2.1	386	2.3
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Spink	3	40	0.6	41		0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Stanley	37	496	8.0	512		144	1,918	10.8	1,983	3.9
Sully	9	121	1.9	124		25	333	1.9	344	2.8
Tripp	30	402	6.5	415		50	666	3.8	688	1.7
Turner	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Union	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Walworth	10	134	2.2	138		16	213	1.2	220	1.6
Ziebach	1	13	0.2	14		1	13	0.1	14	1.0
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0		0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	3	40	0.6	41		5	67	0.4	69	1.7
Unknown	15	201	-	-		45	599	-	-	3.0
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>6,389</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,389</b>		<b>1,375</b>	<b>18,314</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,314</b>	<b>2.87</b>
Last Revised: 14 April 2021										
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.										
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.										

## **SAGE GROUSE**

The first modern sage grouse hunting season was held in 1955. Between 1955 and 1980, the season was open only about half the years, primarily during the 1970s, and seasons were restrictive. Length of season ranged from 2 to 7 days, with many seasons held during the week with daily bag limits of 1 or 2 birds. In 1980, the population was declining and continued to decline until the mid-1980s. It then stabilized with some fluctuations from year to year. Currently, the population is considered too low to support having a hunting season. The sage grouse hunting season was re-opened in 2000, closed again in 2013, re-opened in 2016, and closed again in 2017.

### Comparison of the 2007-2020 Sage Grouse harvests

Year	# of Hunters	Total Harvest	Harvest by County		Harvest by Age & Sex			
			Butte	Harding	Hatch Year Male	Hatch Year Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
2007	25	10	2	8	5	2	3	0
2008	24	17	5	12	3	5	6	3
2009	20	7	3	4	2	3	0	2
2010	26	12	9	3	1	0	6	5
2011	27	11	6	5	3	2	3	3
2012	35	9	2	7	0	0	3	6
2013-15	No Season							
2016	28	10	1	9	3	4	1	2
2017-20	No Season							

## **MOURNING DOVE**

The 2020 mourning dove season was open 1 September - 9 November statewide. The daily limit was 15 birds, possession 30. To hunt doves, residents were required to hold a small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game license; nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident small game or nonresident youth small game license. All hunters were also required to purchase a Migratory Bird Certificate.

In 2020, 25,856 resident and 66,540 nonresident licenses were issued to hunt doves. Approximately 39% of resident migratory bird hunters and 23% of nonresident small game hunters were surveyed for the mourning dove season. Survey response rates were 37% for residents and 32% for nonresidents.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting doves, there were an estimated 7,260 active dove hunters. The five counties with the highest reported dove harvest were Hughes, Codington, Brown, Minnehaha, and Brookings.

An estimated total of 129,622 doves were harvested during the 2020 season. When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least, 7 being most satisfied), resident dove hunters reported an average satisfaction rating of 5.21, nonresidents 6.06.

### Summary comparison of the 2011 - 2020 mourning dove seasons

Year	Residents					Nonresidents				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2011	6,112	82,291	3.50	13.46	5.27	332	6,563	3.65	19.79	5.41
2012	5,984	88,036	4.16	14.71	4.99	366	7,071	3.19	19.78	5.78
2013	6,752	113,367	4.56	16.79	5.06	210	2,061	2.67	9.80	5.27
2014	8,345	167,407	4.67	20.06	5.05	316	3,991	2.95	12.62	5.71
2015	7,255	127,217	4.66	17.53	5.07	396	7,705	3.29	19.46	5.83
2016	7,131	122,876	4.19	17.23	4.89	318	3,601	2.79	11.32	5.59
2017	6,828	124,052	4.11	18.17	5.12	275	3,463	3.79	12.58	4.63
2018	6,531	120,835	4.16	18.50	5.12	275	3,571	3.22	13.00	5.72
2019	6,003	102,771	3.92	17.12	5.14	290	3,827	3.15	13.20	4.85
2020	6,844	122,464	4.45	17.89	5.21	416	7,158	3.55	17.23	6.06



## **MOURNING DOVE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020**

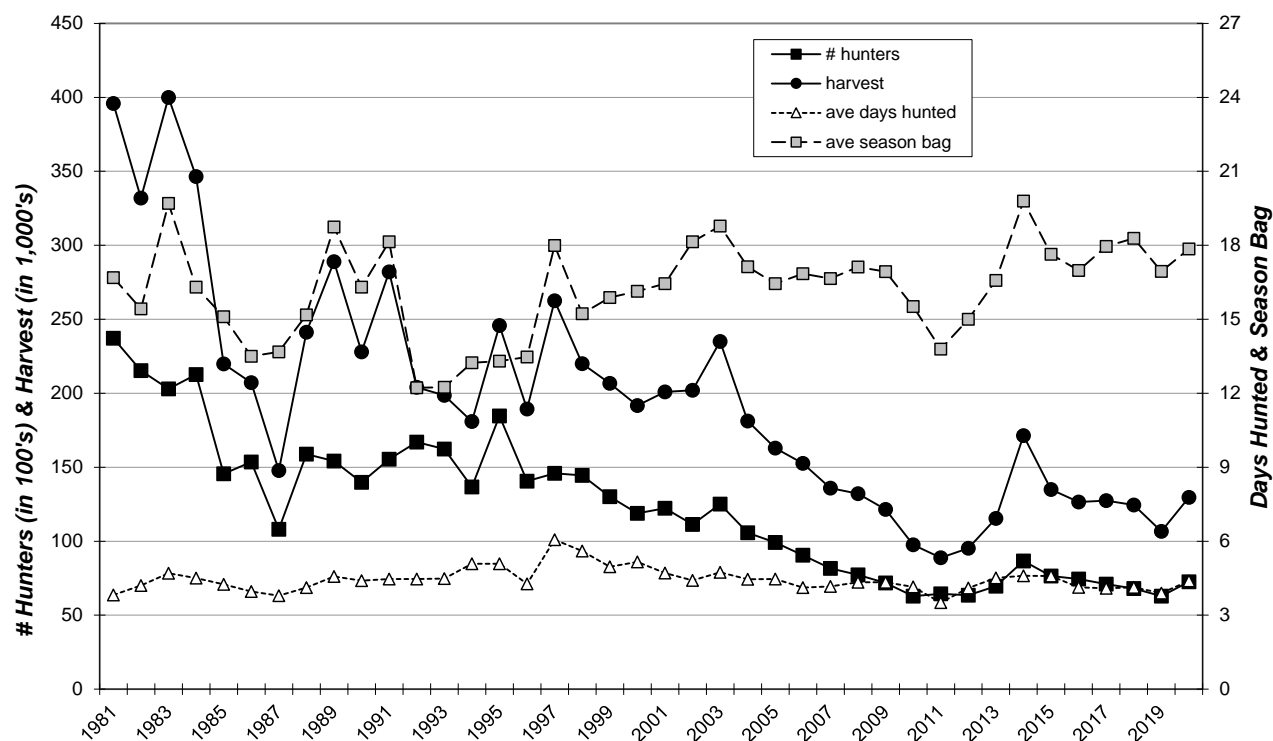
Last Revised: 28 May 2021

	Resident	Non Resident
<b>Licenses Sold *</b>	25,856	66,540
<b>Unique License Holders</b>	25,855	64,880
<b>Projected ACTIVE MOURNING DOVE HUNTERS</b>	<b>6,844</b>	<b>416</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	10,000	15,000
Number Responded to Survey	3,725	4,840
Responded and Participated in Season	986	31
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	<b>2,739</b>	<b>4,809</b>
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>37.3%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Dove Days	986	31
Total Reported Dove Hunted Days	4,384	110
<b>Average Days Hunted Doves</b>	<b>4.45</b>	<b>3.55</b>
Total Reported Doves Bagged	17,643	534
<b>Average Dove Bag for Season</b>	<b>17.89</b>	<b>17.23</b>
<b>Projected Days Dove Hunting</b>	<b>30,430</b>	<b>1,475</b>
<b>Projected No. Dove Hunters</b>	<b>6,844</b>	<b>416</b>
<b>Projected Dove Bag</b>	<b>122,464</b>	<b>7,158</b>
<b>Avg Days Hunted</b>		4.39
<b>TOTAL DOVE HARVEST =</b>		<b>129,622</b>
<b>Dove Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*</b>	5.21	6.06

\* Nonresident number represents total number of small game licenses sold.

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied.

## **STATEWIDE MOURNING DOVE HARVEST, 1981-2020**



South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Mourning Dove Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	56	400	5.6	405	804	5,733	4.5	5,793	14.3
Pennington	28	200	2.8	202	467	3,330	2.6	3,365	16.7
Brown	37	264	3.7	268	644	4,592	3.6	4,640	17.4
Beadle	20	143	2.0	145	342	2,439	1.9	2,464	17.1
Codington	48	343	4.8	347	673	4,799	3.7	4,849	14.0
Brookings	38	271	3.8	275	678	4,835	3.8	4,885	17.8
Yankton	22	157	2.2	159	333	2,375	1.9	2,399	15.1
Davison	25	178	2.5	181	440	3,138	2.4	3,170	17.6
Lawrence	12	86	1.2	87	81	578	0.5	584	6.7
Aurora	12	86	1.2	87	358	2,553	2.0	2,579	29.8
Bennett	10	71	1.0	72	215	1,533	1.2	1,549	21.5
Bon Homme	21	150	2.1	152	349	2,489	1.9	2,515	16.6
Brule	20	143	2.0	145	308	2,196	1.7	2,219	15.4
Buffalo	2	14	0.2	14	90	642	0.5	648	45.0
Butte	7	50	0.7	51	62	442	0.3	447	8.8
Campbell	3	21	0.3	22	61	435	0.3	440	20.3
Charles Mix	24	171	2.4	174	439	3,131	2.4	3,163	18.3
Clark	10	71	1.0	72	71	506	0.4	512	7.1
Clay	9	64	0.9	65	184	1,312	1.0	1,326	20.4
Corson	3	21	0.3	22	125	891	0.7	901	41.6
Custer	10	71	1.0	72	161	1,148	0.9	1,160	16.1
Day	14	100	1.4	101	92	656	0.5	663	6.6
Deuel	8	57	0.8	58	343	2,446	1.9	2,471	42.8
Dewey	1	7	0.1	7	3	21	0.0	22	3.0
Douglas	8	57	0.8	58	130	927	0.7	937	16.2
Edmunds	13	93	1.3	94	543	3,872	3.0	3,912	41.7
Fall River	18	128	1.8	130	346	2,467	1.9	2,493	19.2
Faulk	2	14	0.2	14	37	264	0.2	267	18.5
Grant	18	128	1.8	130	235	1,676	1.3	1,693	13.0
Gregory	5	36	0.5	36	88	628	0.5	634	17.6
Haakon	8	57	0.8	58	95	677	0.5	684	11.9
Hamlin	13	93	1.3	94	204	1,455	1.1	1,470	15.7
Hand	7	50	0.7	51	100	713	0.6	721	14.3
Hanson	13	93	1.3	94	145	1,034	0.8	1,045	11.1
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hughes	78	557	7.8	564	2,230	15,902	12.4	16,068	28.6
Hutchinson	9	64	0.9	65	152	1,084	0.8	1,095	16.9
Hyde	1	7	0.1	7	8	57	0.0	58	8.0
Jackson	8	57	0.8	58	165	1,177	0.9	1,189	20.6
Jerauld	2	14	0.2	14	5	36	0.0	36	2.5
Jones	9	64	0.9	65	245	1,747	1.4	1,765	27.2
Kingsbury	16	114	1.6	116	140	998	0.8	1,009	8.7
Lake	15	107	1.5	108	139	991	0.8	1,002	9.3
Lincoln	34	243	3.4	246	283	2,018	1.6	2,039	8.3
Lyman	20	143	2.0	145	558	3,979	3.1	4,021	27.9
McCook	29	207	2.9	210	424	3,024	2.4	3,055	14.6
McPherson	5	36	0.5	36	80	570	0.4	576	16.0
Marshall	9	64	0.9	65	98	699	0.5	706	10.9
Meade	28	200	2.8	202	407	2,902	2.3	2,933	14.5
Mellette	4	29	0.4	29	122	870	0.7	879	30.5
Miner	9	64	0.9	65	201	1,433	1.1	1,448	22.3
Moody	6	43	0.6	43	79	563	0.4	569	13.2
Perkins	9	64	0.9	65	154	1,098	0.9	1,110	17.1
Potter	8	57	0.8	58	290	2,068	1.6	2,090	36.2
Roberts	10	71	1.0	72	162	1,155	0.9	1,167	16.2
Sanborn	7	50	0.7	51	122	870	0.7	879	17.4
Spink	14	100	1.4	101	330	2,353	1.8	2,378	23.5
Stanley	33	236	3.3	239	509	3,630	2.8	3,667	15.4
Sully	23	164	2.3	166	472	3,366	2.6	3,401	20.5
Tripp	14	100	1.4	101	297	2,118	1.7	2,140	21.2
Turner	28	200	2.8	202	596	4,250	3.3	4,294	21.3
Union	15	107	1.5	108	205	1,462	1.1	1,477	13.7
Walworth	15	107	1.5	108	211	1,505	1.2	1,520	14.1
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	1	7	0.1	7	60	428	0.3	432	59.9
Unk/Unreported	13	93	-	-	187	1,334	-	-	14.4
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>7,260</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,260</b>	<b>18,177</b>	<b>129,622</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>129,622</b>	<b>17.86</b>
Last Revised: 28 May 2021									
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.									
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.									

## **WATERFOWL**

In 2020, there were an estimated 16,819 active resident migratory bird hunters in South Dakota, of which 14,597 were active waterfowl hunters. There were also an estimated 4,489 nonresidents that participated in waterfowl hunting. All nonresident waterfowl license holders and a random sample of 10,000 resident migratory bird certificate holders and were surveyed. Nonresident youth license holders were not surveyed. The survey response rates were 37% for residents and 53% for nonresidents.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), waterfowl hunters reported an overall average rating of 5.10 for residents, and 5.37 for nonresidents.

Summary comparison of the 2011 - 2020 waterfowl seasons

Year	Residents				Nonresidents		
	Active Mig Bird Hunters	Active Waterfowl Hunters	Survey Response Rate	Satisfaction	Active Waterfowl Hunters	Survey Response Rate	Satisfaction
2011	18,836	17,085	52%	5.27	4,326	80%	5.50
2012	18,553	16,725	56%	5.16	4,287	74%	5.30
2013	18,751	16,698	66%	5.04	4,142	80%	5.31
2014	19,643	16,921	68%	4.92	3,798	80%	5.17
2015	17,231	14,579	64%	4.84	4,195	78%	4.91
2016	16,461	13,770	61%	4.86	4,254	73%	4.79
2017	16,478	13,814	60%	5.04	4,523	69%	5.16
2018	15,371	12,750	60%	4.95	4,326	70%	5.10
2019	15,316	13,401	62%	5.10	4,665	70%	5.37
2020	16,819	14,597	37%	5.10	4,489	53%	5.37

### **WATERFOWL HUNTING SUMMARY FOR 2020**

Revised: 25 May 2021

	NONRESIDENT TOTALS BY UNIT									Resident Total
	00A	00B	11A	00V	00X	00Y	00Z	YW1	NR Totals	
1st Choice Applicants	468	4,813	13	94	16	409	156	23	5,992	NA
Licenses Available	250	3,725	25	500	750	500	250	100	6,100	NA
<b>Licenses Sold</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>3,718</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5,553</b>	25,856
<b>Projected ACTIVE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTERS</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>3,025</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>16,819</b>
<b>Unique Licenseholders</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5,539</b>	<b>25,855</b>
Number Sampled by Survey	250	3,716	26	494	270	500	249	0	5,505	10,000
Number Responded to Survey	133	2,049	16	221	103	254	119		2,895	3,725
% Responded and Participated in Season	83%	81%	94%	76%	83%	79%	82%		81%	65%
Responded and Participated in Season	111	1,668	15	167	86	200	98		2,345	2,423
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	22	381	1	54	17	54	21		550	1,302
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>53.2%</b>	<b>55.1%</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>44.7%</b>	<b>38.1%</b>	<b>50.8%</b>	<b>47.8%</b>		<b>52.6%</b>	<b>37.3%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Goose or Duck Days	111	1668	15	167	86	200	98		2,345	2,103
<b>Projected Waterfowl Hunters - Ducks and Geese</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>3,025</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>14,597</b>
<b>TOTAL WATERFOWL HUNTERS =</b>										<b>19,086</b>
<b>All Waterfowl Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*</b>	5.01	5.38	4.67	5.38	5.46	5.53	5.30		5.37	5.10

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

# **TUNDRA SWAN**

The 2020 Tundra Swan season was open from October 3 - January 8 in the following counties: Campbell, Walworth, Potter, Sully, Hughes, Hyde, Hand, Faulk, Spink, McPherson, Edmunds, Brown, Marshall, Roberts, Day, Grant, Codington, Clark, Hamlin, Deuel, Beadle, Kingsbury, Brookings, Buffalo, Jerauld, Brule, Aurora, Sanborn, Miner, Lake, Moody, Davison, Hanson, McCook, and Minnehaha. Residents and nonresidents could purchase up to two licenses. To hunt swans, residents were required to hold a small game, 1-day small game, senior, adult, or junior combination, or youth small game license, plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp. In addition, all hunters needed to apply for and receive a lottery-issued Tundra Swan license.

There were 1,300 licenses available for the 2020 Tundra Swan season (1,100 residents, 200 nonresidents) and 1,166 licenses were sold (919 residents, 247 nonresidents; 148 hunters purchased two licenses each). All swan hunters were surveyed, and the response rate was 62%. All hunters responded through the Internet.

From the survey responses, there were a projected 189 swans harvested during the 2020 season. An estimated 9 swans were crippled and not recovered. When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), swan hunters reported an average rating of 4.76. From those who responded, 36% indicated they did not hunt for swans (some hunters indicated they just purchased the license in case they happened to see a swan while hunting other waterfowl). The average days hunted by swan hunters (4.76 days) projected to a total of 3,082 recreation days for the season.

The two counties with the highest reported swan harvests were Day and Roberts.

## Comparison of the 2011 – 2020 Tundra Swan seasons

Year	Licenses Sold			Harvest (w/o cripples)	Avg Days Hunted	Percent Success	Average Satisfaction
	Resident	Nonres	Total				
2011	978	178	1,156	261	2.94	23%	5.05
2012	1,064	202	1,266	157	2.85	12%	4.97
2013	1,081	178	1,259	306	3.01	24%	5.31
2014	1,018	198	1,216	280	3.27	23%	5.11
2015	1,088	211	1,299	229	3.07	18%	5.09
2016	938	145	1,083	82	2.96	8%	4.81
2017	888	180	1,068	232	5.17	22%	5.10
2018	973	216	1,189	179	4.71	15%	4.85
2019	972	213	1,185	214	4.18	18%	5.11
2020	919	247	1,166	189	4.76	16%	4.76

## 2020 Tundra Swan Harvest Projections

Last Revised:		Licenses										Harvest Projections				Ave.	Ave.
5-Mar-2021		Resident			Nonresident			Response		Tag					Total	Days	Satis-
Unit/Type	App. 1st Choice *	Available	Sold	App. 1st Choice *	Available	Sold	Hunters	Rate	Success	Cripples **	Adults	Juvs	Unk.	Harvest	Hunted	faction	
00A-81	403	1,100	919	137	200	247	1,018	61.8%	16%	9	168	21	0	189	4.76	4.76	

\* Number of 1st drawing applicants with that season as 1st choice.

\*\* Cripple estimate not included in Total Harvest Estimate.

Satisfaction is based on scale with 1=very dissatisfied and 7=very satisfied.

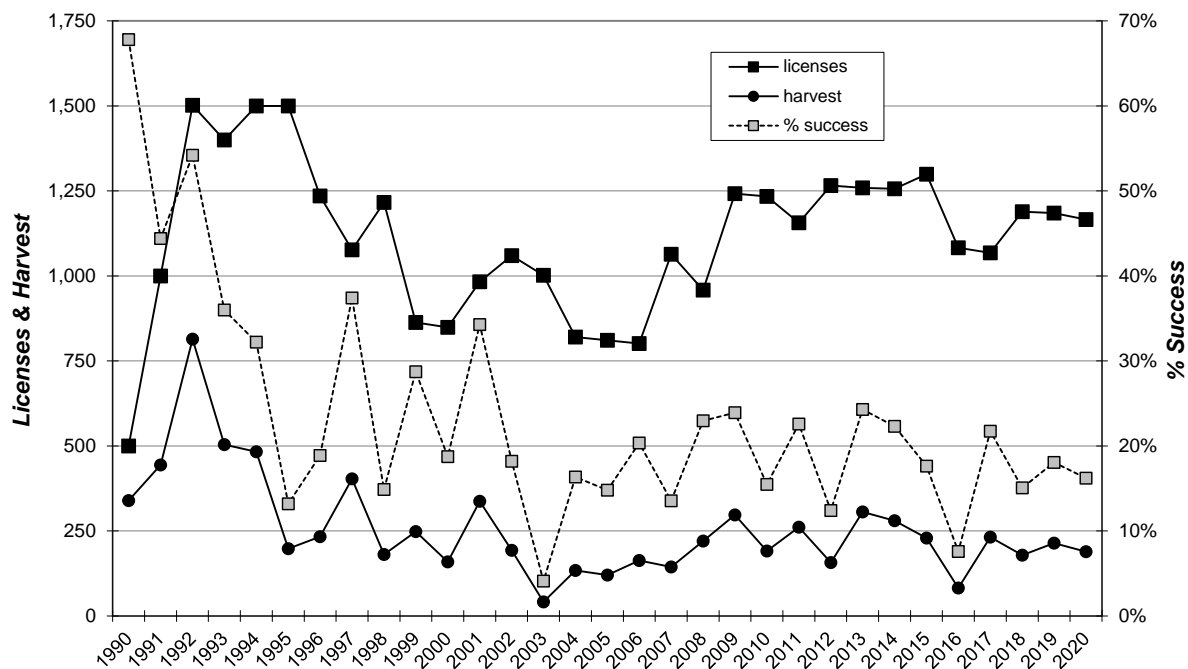
## Tundra Swan Harvest Distribution by County 2020

COUNTY	HARVEST DISTRIBUTION			
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *
Brown	13	21	12.4	23
Beadle	1	2	1.0	2
Codington	2	3	1.9	4
Brookings	2	3	1.9	4
Yankton	2	3	1.9	4
Clark	7	11	6.7	13
Day	18	29	17.1	32
Deuel	1	2	1.0	2
Douglas	2	3	1.9	4
Edmunds	2	3	1.9	4
Grant	4	6	3.8	7
Hamlin	2	3	1.9	4
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0
Kingsbury	5	8	4.8	9
Lake	0	0	0.0	0
McPherson	10	16	9.5	18
Marshall	9	15	8.6	16
Potter	0	0	0.0	0
Roberts	15	24	14.3	27
Spink	10	16	9.5	18
Sully	0	0	0.0	0
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0
Unk/Unreported	12	19	-	-
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>189</b>

Last Revised: 5 March 2021

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

## TUNDRA SWAN HARVEST, 1990-2020



## **DUCKS (all species)**

The 2020 duck season was open 26 September 2020 - 14 January 2021 statewide, although some units/zones may have opened later and/or closed sooner. A special Youth Waterfowl season was open 12-13 September for youth that had not reached age 18 by the first day of the season. The daily bag was 6 ducks, which could include no more than 5 mallards (up to 2 hens), 1 scaup, 2 redheads, 3 wood ducks, 2 canvasbacks, or 1 pintail. Hunters could also harvest 2 bonus blue-winged teal daily during the first 16 days of the season. The daily limit on mergansers was 5, which could include no more than 2 hooded mergansers, and the daily limit on coots was 15. The possession limit was three times the daily bag for each species. To hunt ducks, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

In 2020, there were an estimated 16,559 hunters who hunted at least one day for ducks (12,285 residents, 4,274 nonresidents). From the survey responses, there were a projected total of 241,684 ducks harvested (190,515 by residents, 51,169 by nonresidents). Nonresidents reported harvesting 10% of their ducks within 20 miles of the Missouri River. Average bag for residents was 15.51, and for nonresidents ranged from 6.90 in unit 00X to 16.18 in unit 00A.

The five counties with the highest reported resident hunter numbers were Brown, Day, Codington, Brookings, and Kingsbury. The five counties with the highest reported unit 00B nonresident hunter numbers were Day, Brown, Clark, Marshall, and Roberts.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being most dissatisfied, 7 being most satisfied), duck hunters reported an average satisfaction rating of 5.15 for residents and 5.38 for nonresidents.

The average days hunted by all hunters (7.75 residents, 4.36 nonresidents) projected to a total of 113,856 recreation days for the season.

### Comparison of the 2015 - 2020 duck season statistics

Year	Resident Hunters					Nonresident Hunters				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2015	11,994	169,183	7.22	14.11	4.87	3,937	44,562	4.54	11.32	4.90
2016	10,533	143,749	7.18	13.65	4.81	3,832	41,356	4.70	10.79	4.75
2017	10,557	143,976	6.90	13.64	5.05	4,159	45,344	4.31	10.90	5.14
2018	10,271	134,307	6.88	13.08	4.99	4,051	41,515	4.31	10.25	5.11
2019	11,295	176,885	7.30	15.66	5.17	4,423	52,225	4.47	11.81	5.38
2020	12,285	190,515	7.75	15.51	5.15	4,274	51,169	4.36	11.97	5.38

### **DUCK HUNTING SUMMARY FOR 2020**

Revised: 25 May 2021

	NONRESIDENT TOTALS BY UNIT								NR Totals	Resident Total
	00A	00B	11A	00V	00X	00Y	00Z	YW1		
No. Hunters Reporting Duck Days	103	1,632	12	166	52	197	98		2,260	1,770
Total Reported Duck Hunted Days	665	7,724	60	535	157	562	269		9,972	13,719
Average Days Hunted Ducks	6.46	4.73	5.00	3.22	3.02	2.85	2.74		4.36	7.75
Total Reported Ducks Bagged	1,667	21,136	102	1,541	359	1,727	836		27,368	27,448
Average Duck Bag for Season	16.18	12.95	8.50	9.28	6.90	8.77	8.53		11.97	15.51
Projected Days Duck Hunting	1,250	14,008	98	1,196	413	1,106	563		18,634	95,223
Projected No. Duck Hunters	194	2,960	20	371	137	388	205		4,274	12,285
Projected Duck Bag	3,133	38,332	166	3,445	945	3,400	1,749		51,169	190,515
Duck Harvest Reported Within 20 Miles of Missouri River	1,453	803	0	91	142	16	91		2,596	
Projected Ducks Bagged w/in 20 miles of Missouri River	2,731	1,456	0	203	374	31	190		4,986	N/A
<b>TOTAL DUCK HARVEST = 241,684</b>										
Duck Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*	5.03	5.39	4.58	5.37	5.37	5.55	5.30		5.38	5.15

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

**South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections**  
*Corey Huxoll*

<b>Resident Duck Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	69	479	4.0	490	951	6,601	3.5	6,756	13.8
Pennington	28	194	1.6	199	365	2,533	1.4	2,593	13.0
Brown	107	743	6.2	759	1,673	11,612	6.2	11,885	15.6
Beadle	66	458	3.8	468	1,118	7,760	4.2	7,943	16.9
Codington	84	583	4.9	596	1,750	12,147	6.5	12,432	20.8
Brookings	104	722	6.0	738	1,837	12,751	6.9	13,051	17.7
Yankton	26	180	1.5	185	450	3,123	1.7	3,197	17.3
Davison	12	83	0.7	85	365	2,533	1.4	2,593	30.4
Lawrence	12	83	0.7	85	81	562	0.3	575	6.8
Aurora	33	229	1.9	234	749	5,199	2.8	5,321	22.7
Bennett	8	56	0.5	57	85	590	0.3	604	10.6
Bon Homme	22	153	1.3	156	418	2,901	1.6	2,970	19.0
Brule	29	201	1.7	206	379	2,631	1.4	2,693	13.1
Buffalo	3	21	0.2	21	2	14	0.0	14	0.7
Butte	17	118	1.0	121	291	2,020	1.1	2,067	17.1
Campbell	9	62	0.5	64	96	666	0.4	682	10.7
Charles Mix	45	312	2.6	319	595	4,130	2.2	4,227	13.2
Clark	86	597	5.0	610	1,425	9,891	5.3	10,124	16.6
Clay	10	69	0.6	71	78	541	0.3	554	7.8
Corson	1	7	0.1	7	1	7	0.0	7	1.0
Custer	2	14	0.1	14	7	49	0.0	50	3.5
Day	78	541	4.5	554	1,478	10,259	5.5	10,500	18.9
Deuel	30	208	1.7	213	458	3,179	1.7	3,254	15.3
Dewey	1	7	0.1	7	4	28	0.0	28	4.0
Douglas	6	42	0.3	43	85	590	0.3	604	14.2
Edmunds	26	180	1.5	185	322	2,235	1.2	2,288	12.4
Fall River	31	215	1.8	220	218	1,513	0.8	1,549	7.0
Faulk	14	97	0.8	99	162	1,124	0.6	1,151	11.6
Grant	28	194	1.6	199	289	2,006	1.1	2,053	10.3
Gregory	1	7	0.1	7	6	42	0.0	43	6.0
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hamlin	47	326	2.7	334	1,069	7,420	4.0	7,594	22.7
Hand	17	118	1.0	121	211	1,465	0.8	1,499	12.4
Hanson	25	174	1.4	177	498	3,457	1.9	3,538	19.9
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hughes	28	194	1.6	199	534	3,706	2.0	3,794	19.1
Hutchinson	20	139	1.2	142	262	1,819	1.0	1,861	13.1
Hyde	8	56	0.5	57	174	1,208	0.6	1,236	21.8
Jackson	1	7	0.1	7	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Jerauld	7	49	0.4	50	126	875	0.5	895	18.0
Jones	6	42	0.3	43	59	410	0.2	419	9.8
Kingsbury	98	680	5.7	696	1,624	11,272	6.1	11,537	16.6
Lake	86	597	5.0	610	1,270	8,815	4.7	9,022	14.8
Lincoln	17	118	1.0	121	148	1,027	0.6	1,051	8.7
Lyman	13	90	0.8	92	122	847	0.5	867	9.4
McCook	66	458	3.8	468	1,099	7,628	4.1	7,808	16.7
McPherson	23	160	1.3	163	204	1,416	0.8	1,449	8.9
Marshall	41	285	2.4	291	643	4,463	2.4	4,568	15.7
Meade	13	90	0.8	92	63	437	0.2	448	4.8
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Miner	34	236	2.0	241	497	3,450	1.9	3,531	14.6
Moody	16	111	0.9	114	150	1,041	0.6	1,066	9.4
Perkins	6	42	0.3	43	27	187	0.1	192	4.5
Potter	11	76	0.6	78	206	1,430	0.8	1,463	18.7
Roberts	37	257	2.1	263	382	2,651	1.4	2,714	10.3
Sanborn	25	174	1.4	177	360	2,499	1.3	2,558	14.4
Spink	26	180	1.5	185	240	1,666	0.9	1,705	9.2
Stanley	8	56	0.5	57	72	500	0.3	512	9.0
Sully	20	139	1.2	142	414	2,874	1.5	2,941	20.7
Tripp	3	21	0.2	21	35	243	0.1	249	11.7
Turner	25	174	1.4	177	301	2,089	1.1	2,138	12.0
Union	7	49	0.4	50	129	895	0.5	916	18.4
Walworth	8	56	0.5	57	155	1,076	0.6	1,101	19.4
Ziebach	1	7	0.1	7	5	35	0.0	36	5.0
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Unk/Unreported	39	271	-	-	631	4,380	-	-	16.2
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>12,285</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>12,285</b>	<b>27,448</b>	<b>190,515</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>190,515</b>	<b>15.51</b>
Last Revised: 25 May 2021									
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.									
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.									

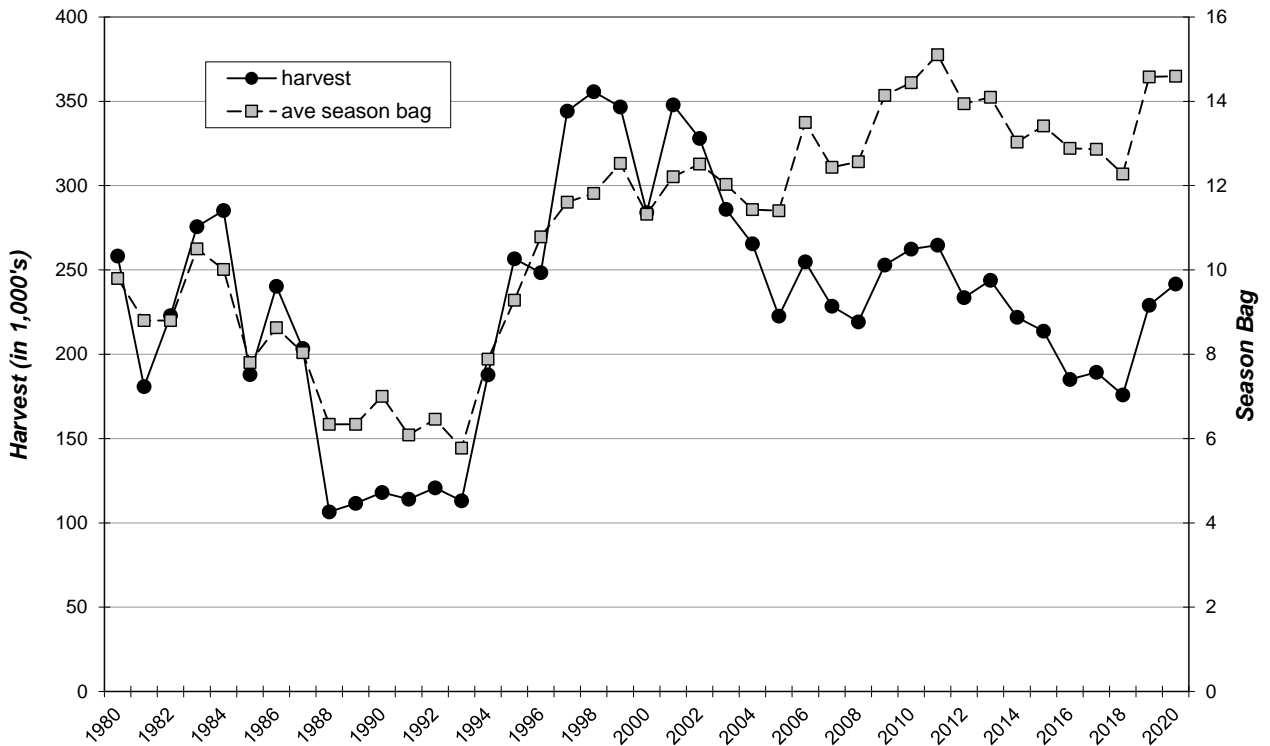


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*Corey Huxoll*

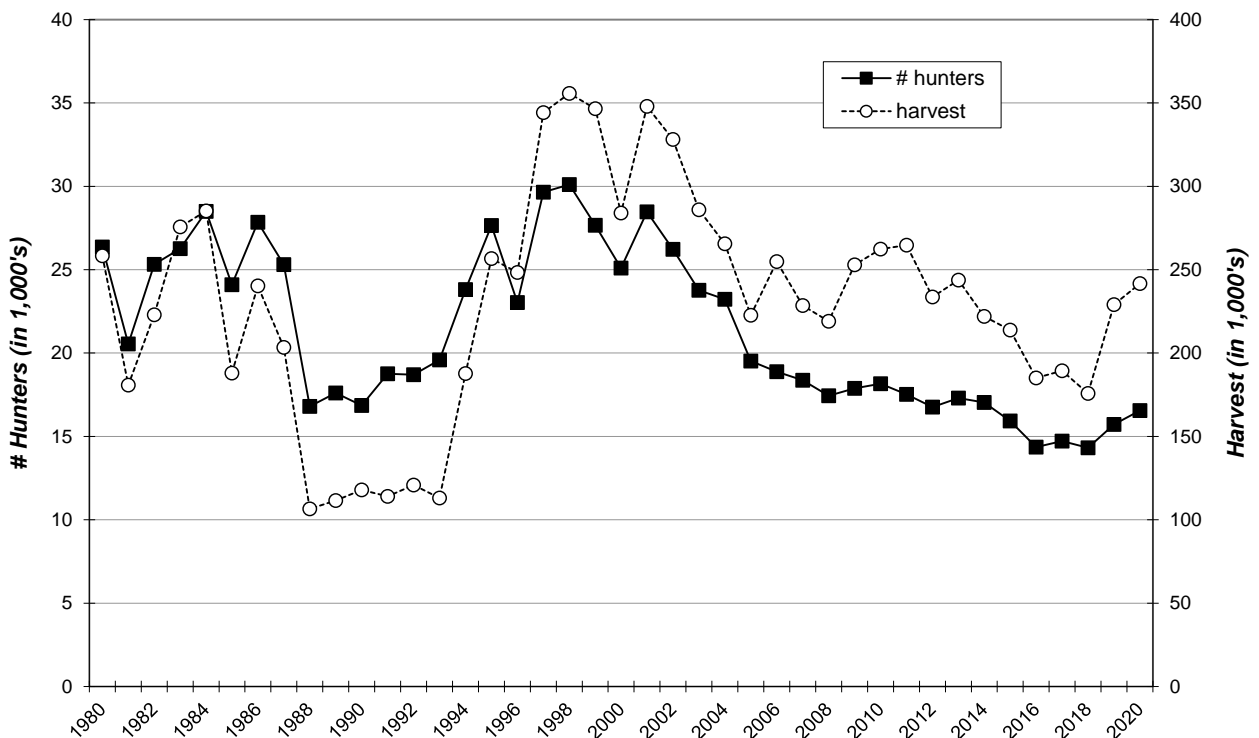
2020 Reported Nonresident Duck Hunting Distribution by County										
COUNTY	00A	00B	00V	00X	00Y	00Z	11A	00B PERCENT	00V PERCENT	00Y PERCENT
Minnehaha	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Pennington	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Brown	0	151	69	0	0	0	0	9.6%	47.6%	0.0%
Beadle	0	34	0	1	0	7	0	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Codington	0	48	1	0	14	0	0	3.1%	0.7%	7.8%
Brookings	0	34	0	0	0	2	0	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Yankton	20	4	0	0	0	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Davison	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Lawrence	0	2	0	0	0	6	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Aurora	0	29	0	0	0	7	0	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Bennett	0	3	1	0	0	0	11	0.2%	0.7%	0.0%
Bon Homme	47	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Brule	0	33	0	0	0	10	0	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Buffalo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Butte	0	10	0	0	0	3	0	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Campbell	0	19	5	0	0	1	0	1.2%	3.4%	0.0%
Charles Mix	21	13	0	3	0	0	0	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Clark	0	124	0	0	46	0	0	7.9%	0.0%	25.6%
Clay	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Corson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Custer	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Day	0	341	0	0	53	1	0	21.7%	0.0%	29.4%
Deuel	0	5	0	0	3	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	1.7%
Dewey	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Douglas	0	17	1	0	0	1	0	1.1%	0.7%	0.0%
Edmunds	0	65	32	0	0	0	0	4.1%	22.1%	0.0%
Fall River	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Faulk	0	31	14	0	0	0	0	2.0%	9.7%	0.0%
Grant	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	1.1%
Gregory	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%
Haakon	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Hamlin	0	23	1	0	5	3	0	1.5%	0.7%	2.8%
Hand	0	22	0	1	0	2	0	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Hanson	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Harding	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Hughes	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Hutchinson	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Hyde	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Jerauld	0	13	0	0	0	1	0	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Jones	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Kingsbury	0	51	0	0	0	9	0	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Lake	0	19	0	0	0	2	0	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Lyman	0	7	1	9	0	0	0	0.4%	0.7%	0.0%
McCook	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
McPherson	0	55	17	0	0	0	0	3.5%	11.7%	0.0%
Marshall	0	79	0	0	18	0	0	5.0%	0.0%	10.0%
Meade	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Mellette	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Miner	0	24	0	0	0	8	0	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Moody	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Perkins	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Potter	0	9	0	14	0	0	0	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Roberts	0	124	0	0	25	0	0	7.9%	0.0%	13.9%
Sanborn	0	22	0	0	0	4	0	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Spink	0	44	0	0	13	1	0	2.8%	0.0%	7.2%
Stanley	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0.1%	0.7%	0.0%
Sully	0	8	0	13	0	0	0	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Tripp	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Turner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Union	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Walworth	0	23	2	0	0	0	0	1.5%	1.4%	0.0%
Ziebach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Todd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
TOTALS:	100	1,570	145	50	180	84	11	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Last updated: 25 May 2021										



### STATEWIDE DUCK (all species) HARVEST, 1980-2020



### STATEWIDE DUCK SEASON PARTICIPATION, 1980-2020



## **CANADA GEESE (all seasons)**

Information provided in this section pertains to the entire Canada goose harvest in South Dakota and combines information from all seasons. The next two sections report specifically on the Early Fall (September) and Special Bennett County seasons.

The 2020 Canada goose season was open from 5 September 2020 - 14 February 2021 statewide, although some units may have opened later and/or closed sooner. The daily bag was 8 geese in Unit 1, but only 4 in Units 2 and 3 (refer to Hunting Handbook). Possession was three times the daily bag. Resident hunters were separately licensed for one Special Canada goose unit in Bennett County. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp. Special Canada goose season hunters were required to apply for and receive Special Canada goose season licenses.

In 2020, there were an estimated 12,555 hunters who hunted at least one day for Canada geese (10,356 residents, 2,199 nonresidents). From the survey responses, there were a projected total of 100,606 Canada geese harvested (93,682 by residents, 6,924 by nonresidents). Average Canada goose bag for residents was 9.05, and for nonresidents 3.15. An estimated 11,778 Canada geese were harvested within 20 miles of the Missouri River.

The five counties with the highest reported harvest by residents were Brown, Day, Codington, Brookings, and Kingsbury, and by nonresidents in unit 00B were Day, Marshall, Roberts, Brown, and Clark.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), Canada goose hunters reported an average rating of 5.07 for residents and 5.38 for nonresidents. The average days hunted by all hunters (6.96 residents, 3.96 nonresidents) projected to a total of 80,462 recreation days for the season.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 Canada goose harvest statistics

Year	Resident Hunters					Nonresident Hunters				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2011	13,376	131,505	7.28	9.83	5.31	2,167	6,332	4.25	2.92	5.63
2012	13,725	157,363	7.61	11.47	5.19	2,277	7,054	4.37	3.10	5.44
2013	12,004	117,846	7.54	9.82	5.06	2,160	6,310	4.24	2.92	5.37
2014	12,130	97,956	6.92	8.08	4.96	1,969	5,193	4.31	2.76	5.22
2015	10,228	73,471	7.00	7.18	4.78	2,104	5,482	4.30	2.70	4.98
2016	9,964	85,809	6.98	8.61	4.87	2,046	5,485	4.51	2.77	4.86
2017	9,762	76,827	6.95	7.87	5.06	2,428	6,601	4.19	2.74	5.18
2018	8,633	63,848	6.67	7.40	4.93	2,289	5,638	4.17	2.52	5.11
2019	9,264	78,143	6.85	8.44	5.09	2,209	5,995	4.05	2.82	5.41
2020	10,356	93,682	6.96	9.05	5.07	2,199	6,924	3.96	3.15	5.38

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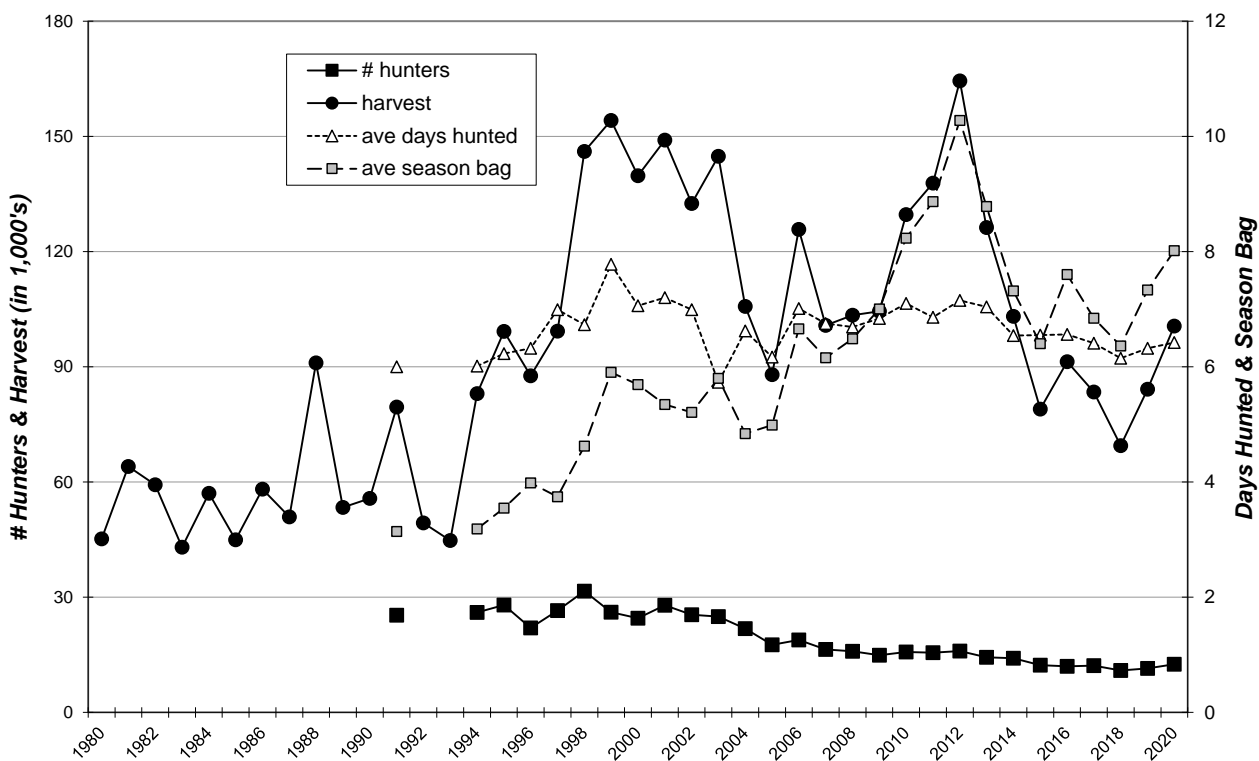
**CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020**

Revised: 25 May 2021

	NONRESIDENT TOTALS BY UNIT							NR Totals	Resident Total
	00A	00B	11A	00V	00X	00Y	00Z		
No. Hunters Reporting Canada Goose Days	73	824	10	68	48	108	29	1,160	1,492
Total Reported Canada Goose Hunted Days	445	3,472	30	178	108	289	74	4,596	10,381
<b>Average Days Hunted Canada Geese</b>	<b>6.10</b>	<b>4.21</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>2.62</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>2.68</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>6.96</b>
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	400	2,591	12	234	169	214	31	3,651	13,497
<b>Average Canada Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>5.48</b>	<b>3.14</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>3.44</b>	<b>3.52</b>	<b>1.98</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>3.15</b>	<b>9.05</b>
<b>Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>6,297</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>8,588</b>	<b>72,054</b>
<b>Projected No. Canada Goose Hunters</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1,494</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>10,356</b>
<b>Projected Canada Goose Bag</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>4,699</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>6,924</b>	<b>93,682</b>
Canada Geese Reported w/in 20 miles of Missouri River	356	123	N/A	1	112	N/A	2	594	1,525
<b>Projected Canada Geese Bagged w/in 20 miles Missouri River</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>223</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>295</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>10,585</b>
<b>TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST ALL SEASONS = 100,606</b>									
Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*	4.90	5.39	5.20	5.55	5.49	5.69	4.69	5.38	5.07

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

**STATEWIDE CANADA GOOSE (all seasons) HARVEST, 1980-2020**



South Dakota Game Report No 2021-13 - 2020 Small Game, Upland Bird & Migratory Bird Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Resident Canada Goose Harvest Distribution by County 2020</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTER DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>				<b>Birds/Hunter **</b>
	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b># Projected</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	
Minnehaha	58	403	4.1	420	625	4,338	4.9	4,550	10.8
Pennington	21	146	1.5	152	102	708	0.8	743	4.9
Brown	72	500	5.0	522	752	5,220	5.8	5,475	10.4
Beadle	41	285	2.9	297	316	2,193	2.5	2,301	7.7
Codington	78	541	5.5	565	825	5,726	6.4	6,007	10.6
Brookings	74	514	5.2	536	995	6,906	7.7	7,244	13.4
Yankton	23	160	1.6	167	168	1,166	1.3	1,223	7.3
Davison	8	56	0.6	58	58	403	0.5	422	7.3
Lawrence	6	42	0.4	43	71	493	0.6	517	11.8
Aurora	19	132	1.3	138	257	1,784	2.0	1,871	13.5
Bennett	30	208	2.1	217	210	1,458	1.6	1,529	7.0
Bon Homme	20	139	1.4	145	95	659	0.7	692	4.8
Brule	14	97	1.0	101	82	569	0.6	597	5.9
Buffalo	3	21	0.2	22	15	104	0.1	109	5.0
Butte	18	125	1.3	130	257	1,784	2.0	1,871	14.3
Campbell	3	21	0.2	22	55	382	0.4	400	18.3
Charles Mix	32	222	2.2	232	218	1,513	1.7	1,587	6.8
Clark	77	534	5.4	558	680	4,720	5.3	4,951	8.8
Clay	16	111	1.1	116	109	757	0.8	794	6.8
Corson	3	21	0.2	22	31	215	0.2	226	10.3
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Day	70	486	4.9	507	759	5,268	5.9	5,526	10.8
Deuel	34	236	2.4	246	608	4,220	4.7	4,427	17.9
Dewey	1	7	0.1	7	3	21	0.0	22	3.0
Douglas	6	42	0.4	43	77	534	0.6	561	12.8
Edmunds	20	139	1.4	145	186	1,291	1.4	1,354	9.3
Fall River	25	174	1.7	181	98	680	0.8	714	3.9
Faulk	10	69	0.7	72	37	257	0.3	269	3.7
Grant	47	326	3.3	341	459	3,186	3.6	3,342	9.8
Gregory	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Haakon	2	14	0.1	14	4	28	0.0	29	2.0
Hamlin	36	250	2.5	261	265	1,839	2.1	1,929	7.4
Hand	15	104	1.0	109	113	784	0.9	823	7.5
Hanson	19	132	1.3	138	61	423	0.5	444	3.2
Harding	1	7	0.1	7	3	21	0.0	22	3.0
Hughes	62	430	4.3	449	389	2,700	3.0	2,832	6.3
Hutchinson	10	69	0.7	72	45	312	0.3	328	4.5
Hyde	1	7	0.1	7	4	28	0.0	29	4.0
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jerauld	5	35	0.3	36	13	90	0.1	95	2.6
Jones	3	21	0.2	22	10	69	0.1	73	3.3
Kingsbury	70	486	4.9	507	878	6,094	6.8	6,393	12.5
Lake	64	444	4.5	464	534	3,706	4.2	3,888	8.3
Lincoln	17	118	1.2	123	105	729	0.8	764	6.2
Lyman	7	49	0.5	51	31	215	0.2	226	4.4
McCook	36	250	2.5	261	316	2,193	2.5	2,301	8.8
McPherson	24	167	1.7	174	225	1,562	1.7	1,638	9.4
Marshall	36	250	2.5	261	299	2,075	2.3	2,177	8.3
Meade	6	42	0.4	43	10	69	0.1	73	1.7
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Miner	23	160	1.6	167	288	1,999	2.2	2,097	12.5
Moody	10	69	0.7	72	39	271	0.3	284	3.9
Perkins	9	62	0.6	65	28	194	0.2	204	3.1
Potter	8	56	0.6	58	26	180	0.2	189	3.3
Roberts	40	278	2.8	290	354	2,457	2.8	2,577	8.9
Sanborn	13	90	0.9	94	44	305	0.3	320	3.4
Spink	20	139	1.4	145	173	1,201	1.3	1,260	8.7
Stanley	16	111	1.1	116	70	486	0.5	510	4.4
Sully	14	97	1.0	101	105	729	0.8	764	7.5
Tripp	5	35	0.3	36	31	215	0.2	226	6.2
Turner	8	56	0.6	58	43	298	0.3	313	5.4
Union	11	76	0.8	80	116	805	0.9	845	10.5
Walworth	9	62	0.6	65	97	673	0.8	706	10.8
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Unk/Unreported	63	437	-	-	630	4,373	-	-	10.0
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>10,356</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10,356</b>	<b>13,497</b>	<b>93,682</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93,682</b>	<b>9.05</b>
Last Revised: 26 May 2021									
* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.									
** Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.									

## **EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE**

The 2020 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 5-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2020 hunting guide, which included most of the state. However, nonresidents were prohibited from hunting in the counties of Beadle, Brookings, Hanson, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Sanborn, Turner and Union during these dates. The daily bag limit was 8 geese and possession was 24. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

Resident hunters were surveyed utilizing the Migratory Bird Harvest Survey that is used to assess all migratory bird harvest for the year. Hunters were asked to break down how many geese they harvested during the Early Fall season out of the total number they harvested for the year. Nonresident hunters were surveyed using a separate Early Fall Canada Goose season survey.

In 2020, there were 26,319 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (25,855 residents, 464 nonresidents). Approximately 39% (10,000) of the resident hunters and all nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 37% for residents and 43% for nonresidents.

A projected 3,857 hunters hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the 2020 Early Fall season, and they harvested a projected 33,769 geese.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 Early Fall Canada goose harvest statistics

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Average Season Bag</b>
2011	5,417	50,361	9.30
2012	3,636	28,788	7.92
2013	4,528	29,887	6.60
2014	5,106	28,814	5.64
2015	3,883	20,735	5.34
2016	3,366	27,660	8.22
2017	3,226	25,808	8.00
2018	2,716	17,904	6.59
2019	3,000	21,054	7.02
2020	3,857	33,769	8.76

## EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020

Last Revised: 25 May 2021

	Resident	Non Resident
<b>EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*</b>	25,856	464
<b>Unique Licenseholders</b>	25,855	464
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	3,450	408
Number Sampled by Survey	10,000	464
Number Responded to Survey	3,725	198
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>497</b>	<b>174</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	3,228	24
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>37.3%</b>	<b>42.7%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	497	174
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	631
<b>Average Days Hunted Canada Geese</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>3.63</b>
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	4,220	1,911
<b>Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall</b>	<b>8.49</b>	<b>10.98</b>
<b>Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>1,479</b>
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Projected Canada Goose Bag</b>	<b>29,291</b>	<b>4,478</b>
<b>TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 33,769</b>		

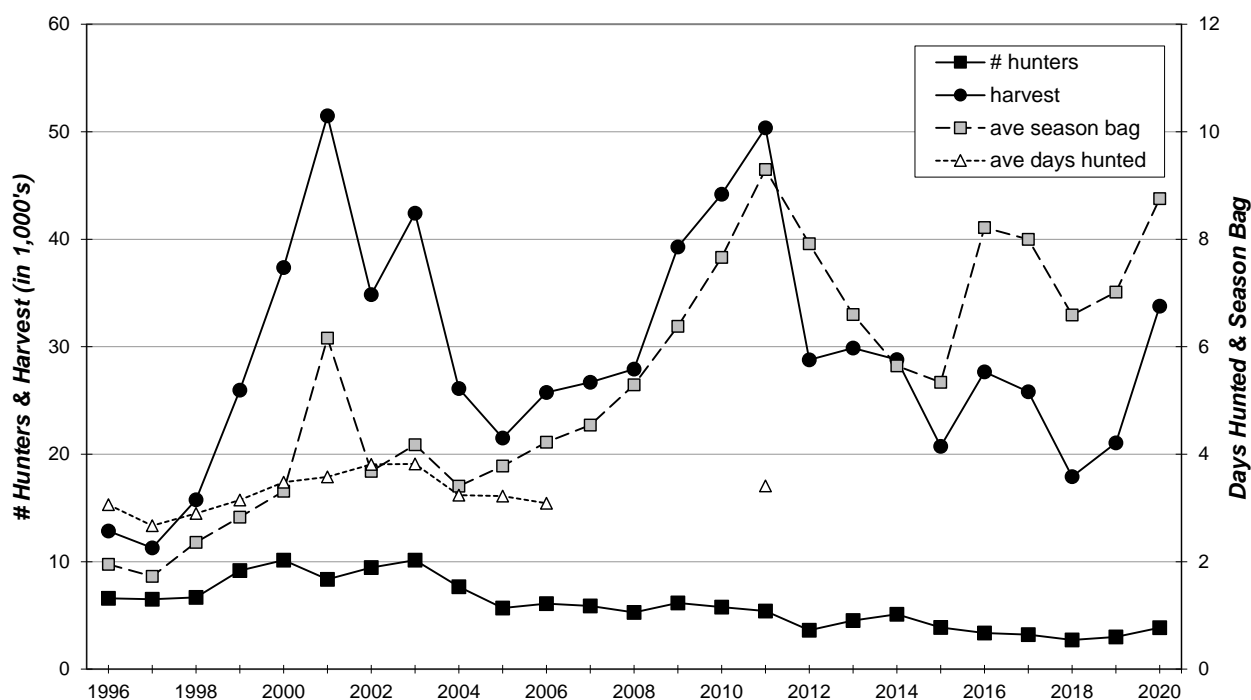
### Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score \*2\*

\*1\* For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2020 GF79 database

For nonresidents: number of Nonresident Waterfowl licenses sold in GF79

\*2\* Based on a scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

## EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST, 1996-2020



## **SPECIAL CANADA GOOSE**

The 2020 Special Unit Canada goose season was open from October 17 to December 20 in Bennett County. To hunt this resident-only season, hunters were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, senior, adult or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification, and for those hunters age 16 and over, a federal waterfowl stamp. Additionally, hunters must have applied for and received a Special Canada goose license for that specific unit. Each license allowed the hunter to harvest 3 geese and individuals could have up to 5 licenses for the season, if licenses were left after the 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline drawing. A total of 170 hunters received multiple licenses for the 2020 season, including 35 hunters who received the maximum of 5 licenses each.

In 2020, there were 410 residents licensed to hunt the Special Canada goose season. All license holders who provided email addresses when applying for their license were surveyed and 185 responses were received for a response rate of 45%.

From the survey responses, there were an estimated 731 Canada geese harvested for an average bag of 1.78 per license holder. Of the 185 hunters who responded to the survey, 90 (49%) indicated that they hunted during this season. When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), hunters reported an average rating of 5.64.

### **SPECIAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020**

*Last Revised: 26 May 2021*

	<b>Resident</b>
<b>SPECIAL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold</b>	754
<b>Number Unique Licenseholders</b>	410
Number Sampled by Survey	410
Number Responded to Survey	185
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>90</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	95
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>45.1%</b>
Total Reported Canada Goose Hunted Days	227
<b>Average Days Hunted Canada Geese</b>	<b>1.23</b>
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	330
<b>Average Canada Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>1.78</b>
<b>Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting</b>	<b>503</b>
<b>Projected No. Canada Goose Hunters</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>Projected Canada Goose Bag</b>	<b>731</b>
Reported Geese shot but not retrieved	23
<b>Projected Geese shot but not retrieved</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Special Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*</b>	5.64
<b>TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST SPECIAL SEASON = 731</b>	

*\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied*

## **LIGHT GEESE (regular season)**

Information provided in this section pertains only to the regular light goose season in South Dakota. The next section reports on the Spring Conservation Order.

The 2020 light goose season was open from 26 September - 8 January statewide and included snow, blue, and Ross' geese and all other geese except Canada geese, brant and white-fronted geese. The daily bag was 50 geese with an unlimited season possession limit. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

In 2020, there were an estimated 4,176 hunters who hunted at least one day for light geese during the regular season (3,415 residents, 761 nonresidents). The projected harvest was 48,972 light geese (43,499 by residents, 5,473 by nonresidents).

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), those respondents who reported hunting at least one day for light geese reported an average rating of 5.17 for residents and 5.27 for nonresidents. The average days hunted by all hunters (5.61 residents, 3.92 for nonresidents) projects to a total of 22,141 recreation days for the season.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 regular season light goose harvests

Year	Residents					Nonresidents				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2011	3,614	36,419	3.92	10.08	5.37	617	4,409	4.78	7.15	5.55
2012	4,113	49,788	5.66	12.10	5.19	726	5,383	4.81	7.41	5.49
2013	3,747	46,871	5.25	12.51	5.01	641	6,451	4.85	10.06	5.48
2014	3,572	49,460	5.34	13.85	4.92	514	4,355	4.58	8.47	5.02
2015	3,096	37,266	5.66	12.04	4.78	519	3,492	4.71	6.72	4.83
2016	3,206	39,841	5.41	12.43	4.85	515	5,263	5.40	10.22	4.77
2017	4,159	70,772	6.05	17.02	5.09	1,013	13,972	4.27	13.80	5.22
2018	3,099	39,624	5.40	12.79	4.93	883	6,644	4.39	7.53	4.85
2019	3,060	41,524	4.85	13.57	5.18	774	5,714	4.61	7.38	5.55
2020	3,415	43,499	5.61	12.74	5.17	761	5,473	3.92	7.20	5.27

### **REGULAR SEASON LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020**

Revised: 25 May 2021

revised: 20 May 2017

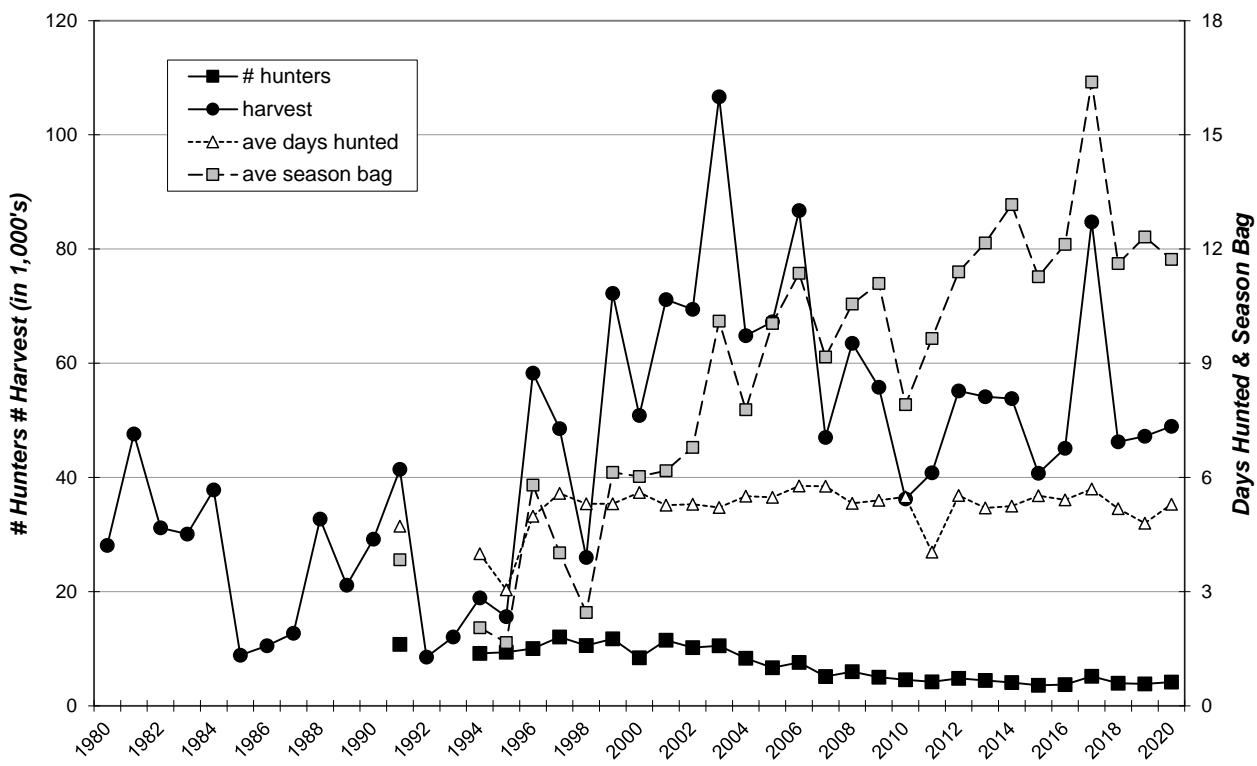
	NONRESIDENT TOTALS BY UNIT							NR	Resident	
	00A	00B	11A	00V	00X	00Y	00Z	YW1	Totals	Total
Regular Season:										
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	6	341	0	30	2	17	12		408	492
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	38	1,356	0	120	5	49	36		1,604	2,760
Average Days Hunted Light Geese	6.33	3.98		4.00	2.50	2.88	3.00		3.92	5.61
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	4	2,383	0	331	2	78	117		2,915	6,267
Average Light Goose Bag for Season	0.67	6.99		11.03	1.00	4.59	9.75		7.20	12.74
Projected Days Light Goose Hunting	71	2,459	0	268	13	96	75		2,984	19,157
Projected No. Light Goose Hunters	11	618	0	67	5	33	25		761	3,415
Projected Light Goose Bag	8	4,322	0	740	5	154	245		5,473	43,499
TOTAL LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST REGULAR SEASON = 48,972										
Light Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*	4.33	5.29		5.00	5.50	5.41	5.42		5.27	5.17

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied



## STATEWIDE REGULAR SEASON LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST, 1980-2020



## **LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER**

Information provided in this section pertains only to the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order in South Dakota. The previous section reported only on the regular season.

The 2020 Light Goose Conservation Order covered 17 February - 15 May statewide. The daily bag and possession limits were unlimited. To hunt light geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident Spring Light Goose or a nonresident Youth Spring Light Goose license. Hunters were not required to possess a federal waterfowl stamp to participate in the conservation order.

Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. In 2020, there were a projected 4,908 license holders who hunted at least one day for light geese during the conservation order dates (2,078 residents, 2,830 nonresidents). From the survey responses, there were a projected total of 96,846 light geese harvested.

The average days hunted projected to a total of 22,695 recreation days for the conservation order. Brown, Yankton, Clark, Beadle, and Edmunds county hunters had the highest reported harvest, accounting for an estimated 50% of the total harvest.

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 Conservation Order light goose statistics

<b>Year</b>	<b>Residents</b>			<b>Nonresidents</b>		
	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Total Days Hunted</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Total Days Hunted</b>
2011	2,503	33,569	15,600	3,617	77,786	26,766
2012	2,324	37,655	13,885	2,494	70,703	16,538
2013	3,166	53,571	15,502	4,142	114,926	15,856
2014	2,159	41,386	11,832	4,514	107,730	17,949
2015	2,147	53,046	12,402	4,277	112,285	16,569
2016	1,866	36,572	9,485	3,843	89,627	15,076
2017	2,672	56,683	16,068	4,448	124,777	17,559
2018	2,736	51,260	14,029	4,643	114,819	18,548
2019	1,413	31,475	6,976	2,700	49,219	9,490
2020	2,078	31,164	11,197	2,830	65,682	11,498

## **SPRING LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST FOR 2020**

Last Revised: 1 Sept 2020

	Resident	Nonresident
CONSERVATION ORDER LIGHT GOOSE Licenses Sold *3*	10,786	3,083
<b>Projected ACTIVE CONS ORDER LIGHT GOOSE HUNTERS</b>	<b>2,078</b>	<b>2,830</b>
Number Sampled for Survey	2,967	1,469
Number Responded to Survey	1,734	732
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>334</b>	<b>672</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	1,400	60
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>58.4%</b>	<b>49.8%</b>
<b>TOTAL LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST CONSERVATION ORDER = 96,846</b>		
<b>Late Season (Conservation Order) 2/17 - 3/10 Period:</b>		
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	214	207
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	799	647
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>3.13</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	1,644	3,231
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>7.68</b>	<b>15.61</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>2,725</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>872</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	<b>10,226</b>	<b>13,608</b>
<b>TOTAL LIGHT GEESE HARVESTED 2/17 - 3/10 = 23,834</b>		
<b>Late Season (Conservation Order) 3/11 - 5/15 Period:</b>		
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	223	536
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	1,001	2,083
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	<b>4.49</b>	<b>3.89</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	3,366	12,364
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>15.09</b>	<b>23.07</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	<b>6,227</b>	<b>8,773</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>2,257</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	<b>20,938</b>	<b>52,074</b>
<b>TOTAL LIGHT GEESE HARVESTED 3/11 - 5/15 = 73,012</b>		
Reported Geese bagged over decoys	2,048	5,262
<b>Projected Geese bagged over decoys</b>	<b>12,739</b>	<b>22,162</b>
<b>Total bagged over decoys = 34,901</b>		
Reported Geese shot but not retrieved	297	572
<b>Projected Geese Shot but Not Retrieved</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>2,409</b>
<b>Total not retrieved = 4,257</b>		
*3* Numbers of resident licenses sold are based on the number of migratory bird certificates in the 2020 database purchased prior to April 21		

## **WHITE-FRONTED GEESE**

The 2020 white-fronted goose season was open from 26 September - 8 December statewide. The daily bag limit was 3 geese, and the season possession limit was 9. To hunt white-fronted geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. There were a projected 1,540 hunters who hunted at least one day for white-fronted geese (1,256 residents, 283 nonresidents). There were a projected 3,163 white-fronted geese harvested (2,804 by residents and 359 by nonresidents).

### Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 white-fronted goose harvests

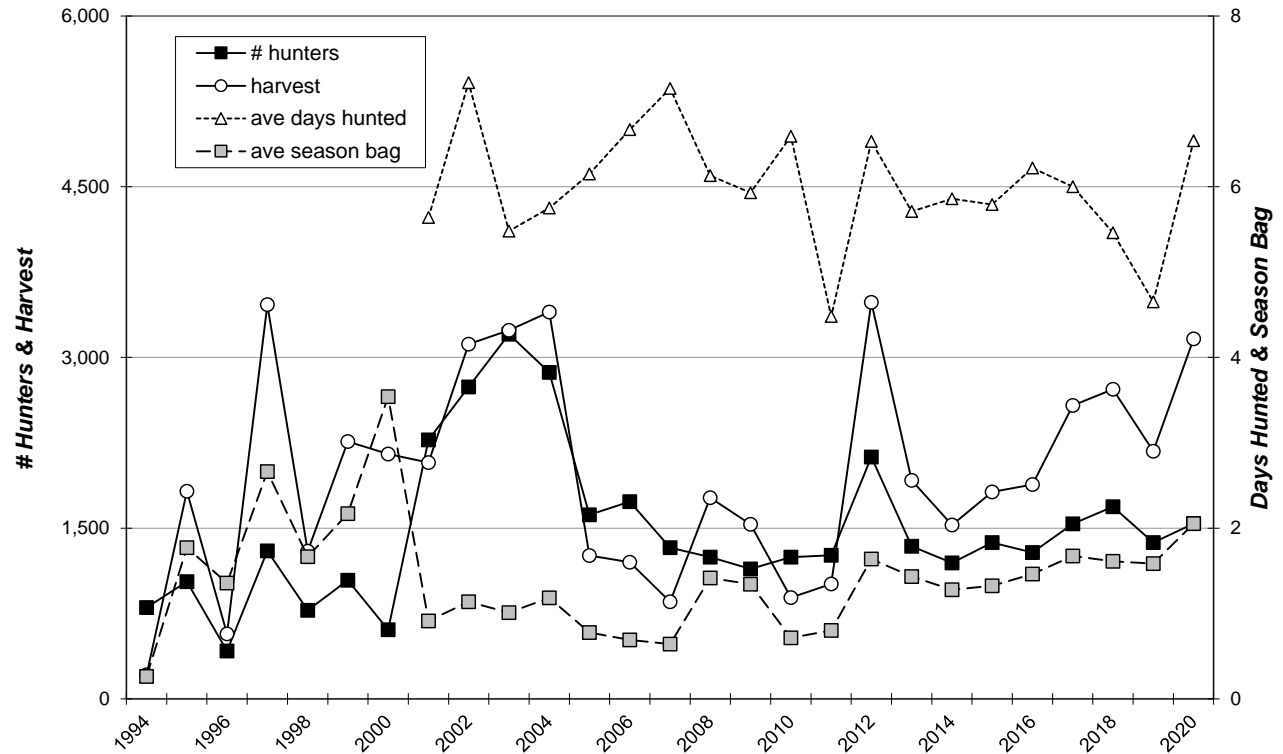
Year	Residents				Nonresidents			
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag, Season	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag, Season
2011	973	896	4.24	0.92	288	115	5.28	0.40
2012	1,685	3,114	6.96	1.85	440	371	4.88	0.84
2013	1,098	1,694	5.83	1.54	224	197	5.13	0.88
2014	951	1,378	6.13	1.45	244	151	4.80	0.62
2015	1,097	1,618	5.93	1.47	275	201	5.20	0.73
2016	992	1,707	6.43	1.72	295	176	5.52	0.60
2017	1,185	2,286	6.30	1.93	354	292	5.00	0.83
2018	1,262	2,428	5.67	1.92	426	293	4.83	0.69
2019	1,015	2,176	4.60	2.14	358	601	4.78	1.68
2020	1,256	2,804	7.05	2.23	283	359	4.26	1.27

### **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020**

Revised: 25 May 2021

	NONRESIDENT TOTALS BY UNIT								NR Totals	Resident Total
	00A	00B	11A	00V	00X	00Y	00Z	YW1		
No. Hunters Reporting White-fronted Goose Days	5	128	0	13	1	3	2		152	181
Total Reported White-fronted Goose Hunted Days	31	577	0	31	3	9	4		655	1,276
<b>Average Days Hunted White-fronted Geese</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>4.51</b>		<b>2.38</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>		<b>4.26</b>	<b>7.05</b>
Total Reported White-fronted Geese Bagged	0	165	0	23	0	1	3		192	404
<b>Average White-fronted Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.29</b>		<b>1.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>1.50</b>		<b>1.27</b>	<b>2.23</b>
<b>Projected Days White-fronted Hunting</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>1,208</b>	<b>8,857</b>
<b>Projected No. White-fronted Goose Hunters</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>283</b>	<b>1,256</b>
<b>Projected White-fronted Goose Bag</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>359</b>	<b>2,804</b>
<b>TOTAL WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE HARVEST = 3,163</b>										

### STATEWIDE WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE HARVEST, 1994-2020



NOTE: Prior to 2001, the definition of a white-fronted goose hunter was one who bagged 1+ white-front. Starting in 2001, the definition was changed to a hunter who spent 1+ days hunting white-fronted geese. This definition increased the number of hunters and decreased the average season bag estimates, but not the overall harvest projections.

## **2020 Harvest Survey Response Rates**

	Overall Response	Proportion	
		Internet	Mail-return
Sage Grouse	NA	NA	NA
Migratory Bird	37.3%	89.7%	10.3%
Nonresident Early Fall Canada Goose	42.7%	100.0%	0.0%
Nonresident Waterfowl	52.6%	91.1%	8.9%
Nonresident Small Game	28.1%	92.3%	7.7%
Resident Small Game	32.3%	84.0%	16.0%
Special Canada Goose	45.1%	100.0%	0.0%
Spring Light Goose	55.8%	64.4%	35.6%
Tundra Swan	61.8%	92.4%	7.6%

\*Note: Due to late responses received through the Internet, final response rates may be higher than those reported in previous sections. Late responses were not included in data summaries or analyses.